BEFORE THE HOBBIT & THE LORD OF THE RINGS, THERE WAS THE EPIC THAT INSPIRED THEM!

KALEVALA

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

SAMI
MAKKONEN

ABLAZE

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BY SAMI MAKKONEN

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The Graphic Novel

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GLOSSARY

PART 1: KALEVALA

Often, I have heard them singing,
that the nights come to us singly,
that the Moon beams on us singly,
that the Sun shines on us singly;
Singly also, Väinämöinen,
the renowned and wise enchanter,
was delivered from his mother,
Ilmatar, the Ether's daughter.
It was getting tedious,
always having to be alone
in the vast fields of the sky,
unending desert.
Luonnotar stepped down.

The wind blew her pregnant,
the sea made her with child.
For seven hundred years,
the maiden carried her child.
Quietly, she began weeping.

Wise old Väinämöinen was in his mother's womb for another 30 summers and as many winters.
He grew impatient. After his mother Ilmatar gave birth, he fell straight into the sea.
For eight years, the waves tossed him about.
Finally, he drifted to the open sea. To a nameless point, a treeless land.

This is what is being told about old Väinämöinen.
Many tales.

And Sampsa, son of the fields.
Sower of lands, spreader of seed.
Who made plants and trees all grow.
Only the oak
did not sprout.

There are also tales of water fairies, who were reaping the reeds, cutting the dewy stems at the end of the misty point.
And Iku-Turso, the ocean monster that burned everything to cinder.
FFHWOOOM!!!
Out of the cinder dust sprang a beautiful seedling.

It rose from the ground and stretched its branches. The top thrusting skywards, the leaves spreading far and wide.
The tree blocked the blaze of the sun and the glow of the moon.
O MOTHER, WHO BORE ME, LUONNOTAR, WHO REARED ME, SEND HERE SOME WATER FOLK! THEY CAN FELL THIS TREE OF EVIL.
Out of the sea rose a man. A brave hero. The size of a man's thumb.
But the man transformed.
Took a new shape.
KLONK! KLONK! KLO

THUNK
KKRRAAS
Feet swaying on the ground but head in the clouds. He struck the tree with his axe, once, and again.
On the third strike, he felled the oak, crushing the trunk of the infernal tree.
Whosoever took a branch from it, had luck everlasting. Whosoever broke a top off, gained mighty magical powers.
Whosoever took a twig, enchanted everyone.
The wind blew the wood shavings, and the waves rocked them.
Took them all the way to Pohjola.
The witch of Pohjola used them to make herself arrows.

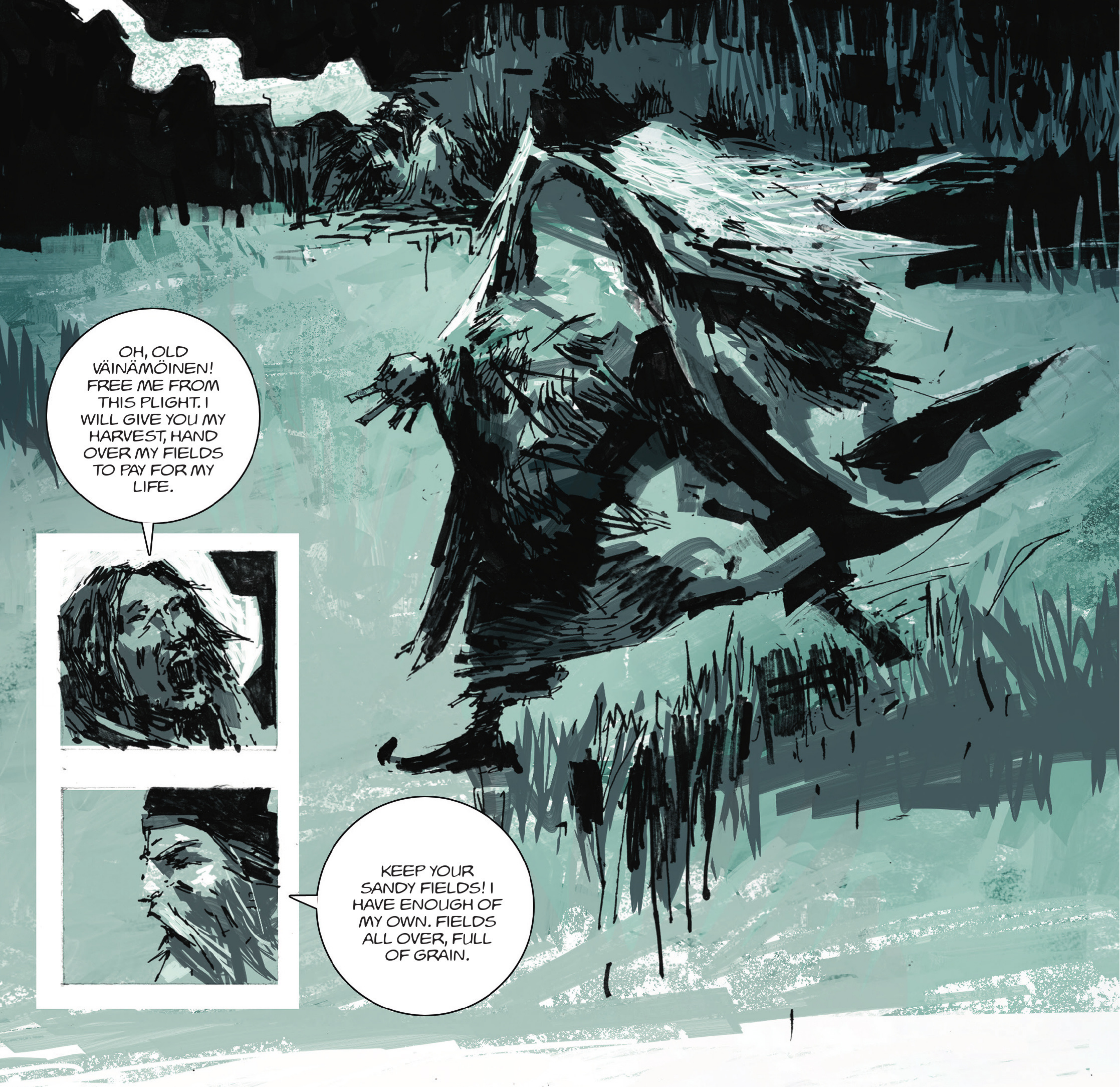
JOUKAHAINEN... THERE ARE MIGHTIER SPELLS IN THE FORESTS OF KALEVALA THAN THOSE THAT YOU KNOW AND LEARNED FROM YOUR FATHER.
HE SINGS FOR DAYS ON END AND NIGHTS TOO, INCESSANTLY.
THAT'S ENOUGH ABOUT VÄINÄMÖINEN... I HOLD THE MOST WISDOM; I WILL CONJURE UP A BOULDER ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE OLD MAN!

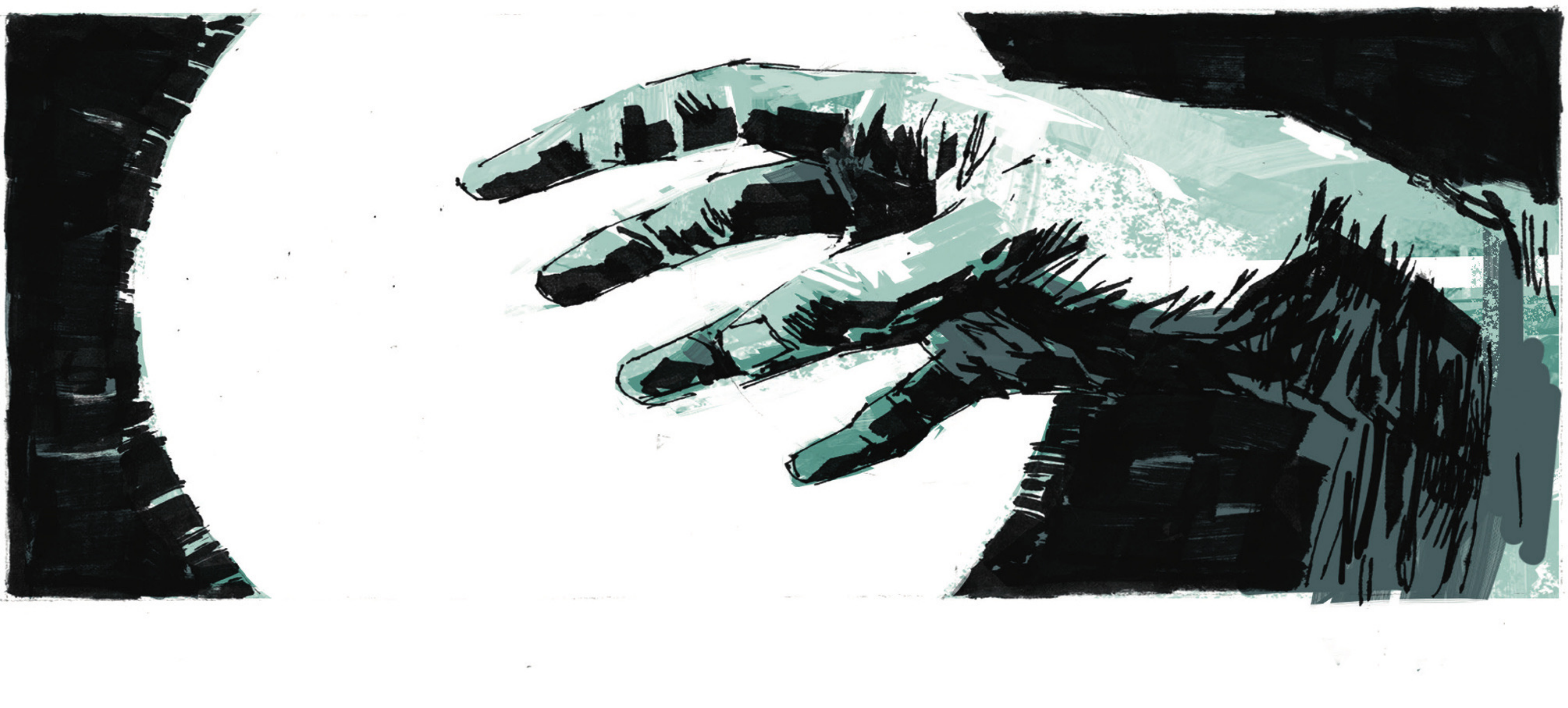
JJIAAAH!!
DO NOT SET OUT TO VÄINÖLÄ TO COMPETE WITH VÄINÖ!
Sampo
YOU SHALL NOT LEAVE YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER. THERE, YOU WILL BE CHANTED AT AND CURSED HEADFIRST INTO THE PACKED SNOW WHERE YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO STRETCH YOUR ARMS OR MOVE YOUR LEGS!
?

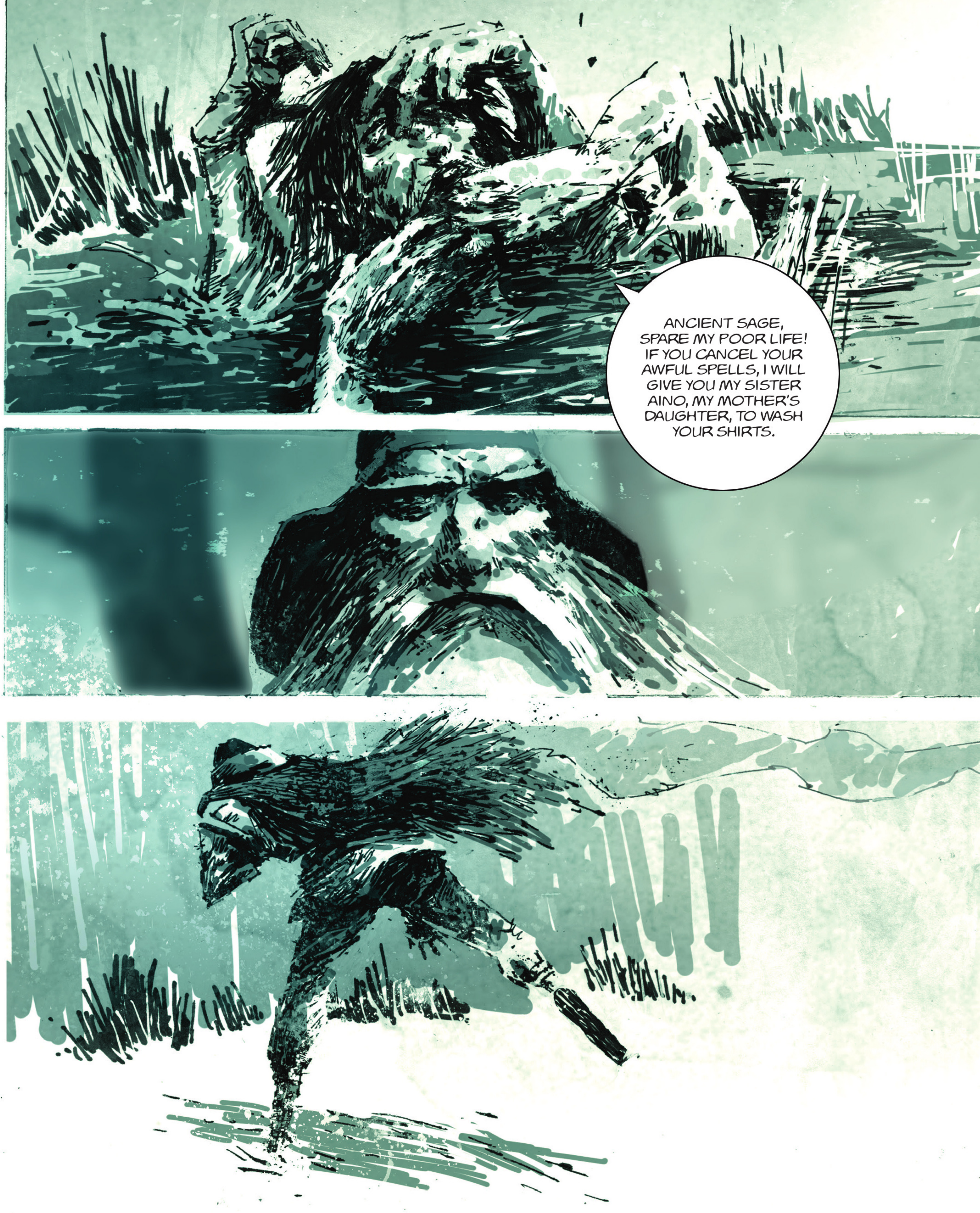
OF WHAT KIN ARE YOU, SINCE YOU SO STUPIDLY CRASHED INTO ME? YOU DESTROYED MY SLEIGH!
I AM THE YOUNG JOUKAHAINEN. BUT YOU SHOULD TELL ME YOUR OWN KIN; WHAT IS YOUR LOT, YOU LOUT?!
I AM VÄINÄMÖINEN. WOULD YOU GIVE WAY PLEASE, AS YOU ARE YOUNGER?
LITTLE DO I CARE ABOUT BEING YOUNGER OR OLDER. LET'S SEE WHO HAS MORE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE...
I AM NOT MUCH OF A COMPETITIVE SPELL-SAYER. I HAVE LIVED ALL MY LIFE IN THESE PARTS, OUR HOMELANDS. BUT DO TELL, IF YOU LIKE, WHAT IS THE MOST AMAZING THING YOU KNOW... SECRET TO OTHERS?
IRON FROM THE RUST WAS FASHIONED, COPPER FROM THE ROCKS CREATED!! MARSHES ARE OF LANDS THE OLDEST!!
CAN YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING MORE OR HAVE YOU RUN OUT OF NONSENSE?
I WILL NOT MEASURE MY SWORD ON A POOR WRETCH LIKE HIM.
HE IS JUST STRETCHING HIS JAWS...
A MAN WHO DOES NOT ACCEPT A DUEL, I CALL A PIG.
SUCH WARRIORS I TOSS ABOUT, SHOVE INTO A PILE OF SHIT AND SLAM INTO THE BACK OF A BARN.

KRA KOOOOMMMM
OH, WISE VÄINÄMÖINEN, ANCIENT SAGE! TAKE BACK YOUR HORRIBLE SPELLS! SPARE ME THIS AGONY. I WILL PAY YOU A GOOD RANSOM.
AND WHAT WILL YOU GIVE ME IF I CANCEL MY SACRED WORDS?

I HAVE TWO BEAUTIFUL BOWS. THE FIRST ONE SHOOTS FAST, THE SECOND VERY STRAIGHT. CHOOSE ONE!
YOU LOSER! I DON'T NEED YOUR BOWS. MY WALLS ARE FULL OF THEM.
KRAK
AND MY WEAPONS HUNT FOR THEMSELVES, PROWL ALONE.


OH, OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN! FREE ME FROM THIS PLIGHT. I WILL GIVE YOU MY HARVEST, HAND OVER MY FIELDS TO PAY FOR MY LIFE.
KEEP YOUR SANDY FIELDS! I HAVE ENOUGH OF MY OWN. FIELDS ALL OVER, FULL OF GRAIN.



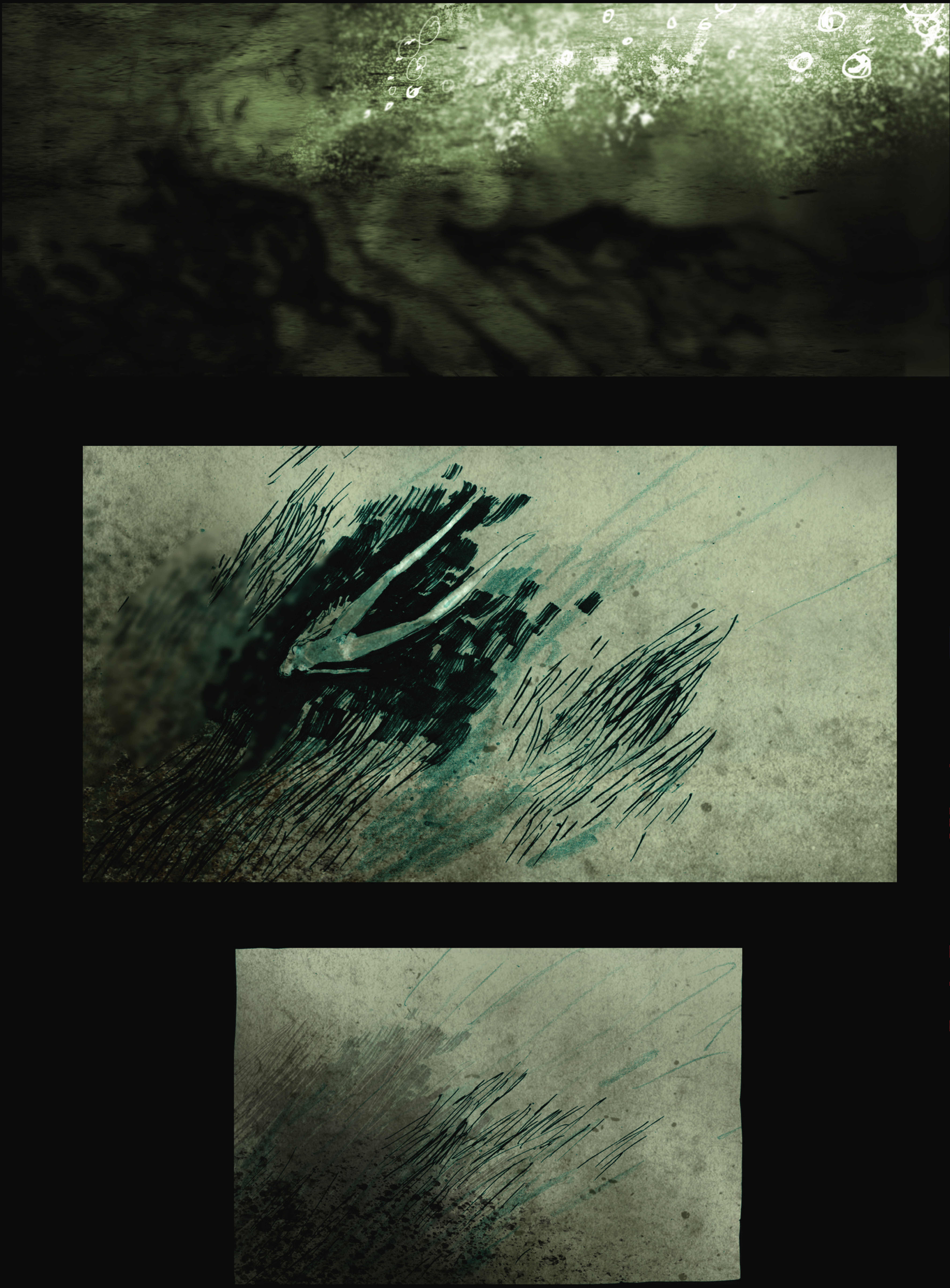

ANCIENT SAGE, SPARE MY POOR LIFE! IF YOU CANCEL YOUR AWFUL SPELLS, I WILL GIVE YOU MY SISTER AINO, MY MOTHER'S DAUGHTER, TO WASH YOUR SHIRTS.

WHY ARE YOU CRYING, MY SON?
OH, MOTHER. I HAVE GOOD CAUSE TO CRY. TERRIBLE THINGS HAVE HAPPENED. I PROMISED AINO TO VÄINÄMÖINEN.
DO NOT CRY FOR NOTHING! NO NEED TO GRIEVE. A GREAT MAN WILL JOIN THE FAMILY. VÄINÄMÖINEN FOR MY SON-IN-LAW! THE GREAT SPELL-SAYER!

ADORN YOUR NECK WITH PEARLS, FAIR MAIDEN, FOR NO OTHER MAN BUT ME.

OSMOINEN, OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN, SPOKE TO ME IN THE DELL.

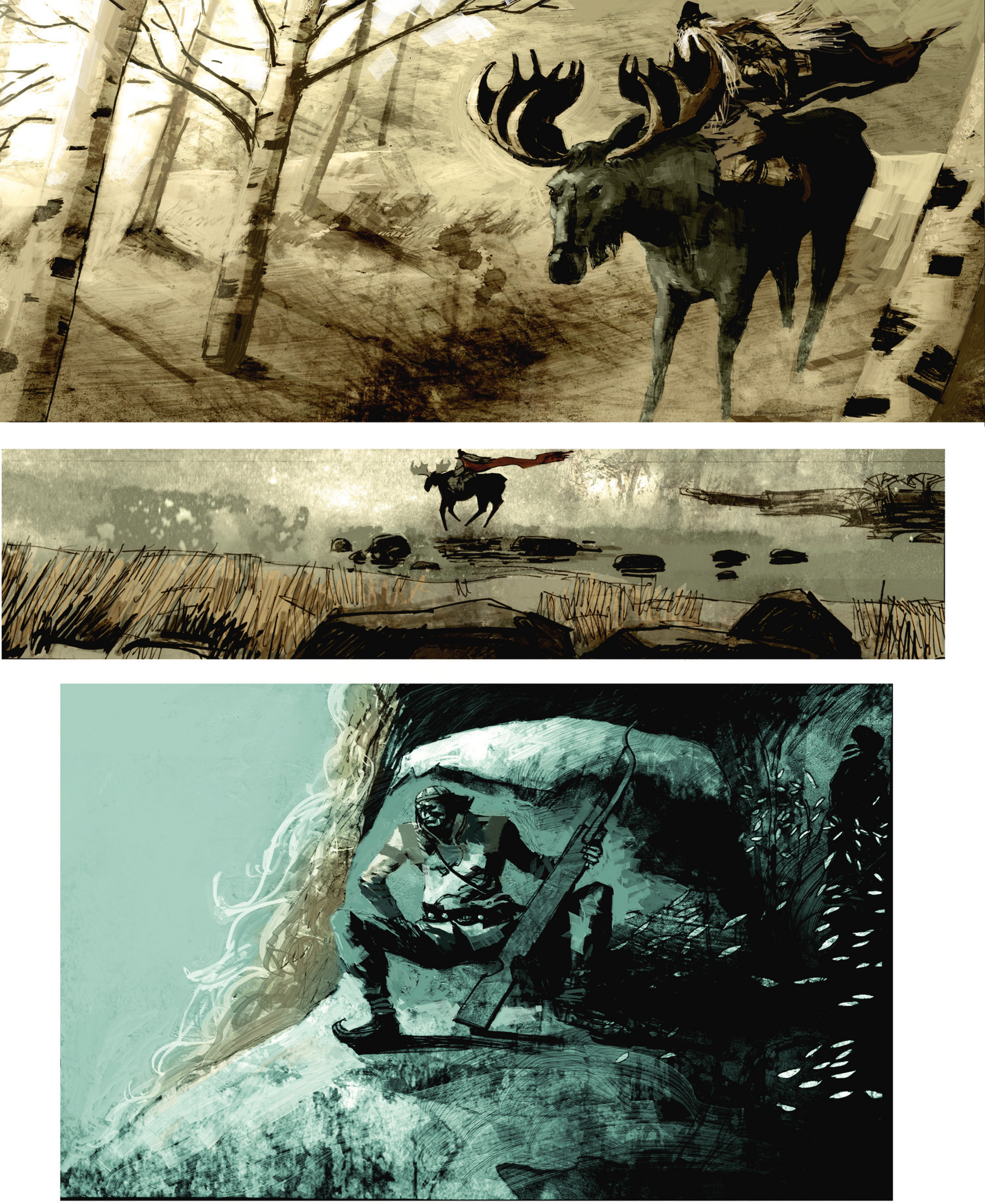
DO NOT CRY MY DAUGHTER, PUT ON YOUR BRIGHT PEARL NECKLACE AND FINE CLOTHES.
SLIP ON BEAUTIFUL STOCKINGS AND LEATHER SHOES!
AND WHEN YOU ENTER THE HOUSE, ALL YOUR RELATIVES WILL ADMIRE YOU. YOU WILL WALK THROUGH THE VILLAGE LIKE A FLOWER IN FULL BLOOM, MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN EVER.
YOU GAVE ME AWAY, PROMISED YOUR OWN CHILD, TO AN OLD MAN! YOU SHOULD RATHER HAVE SENT ME BENEATH THE WAVES. IT WOULD BE BETTER TO BE IN THE SEA, BEFRIENDING THE FISH!

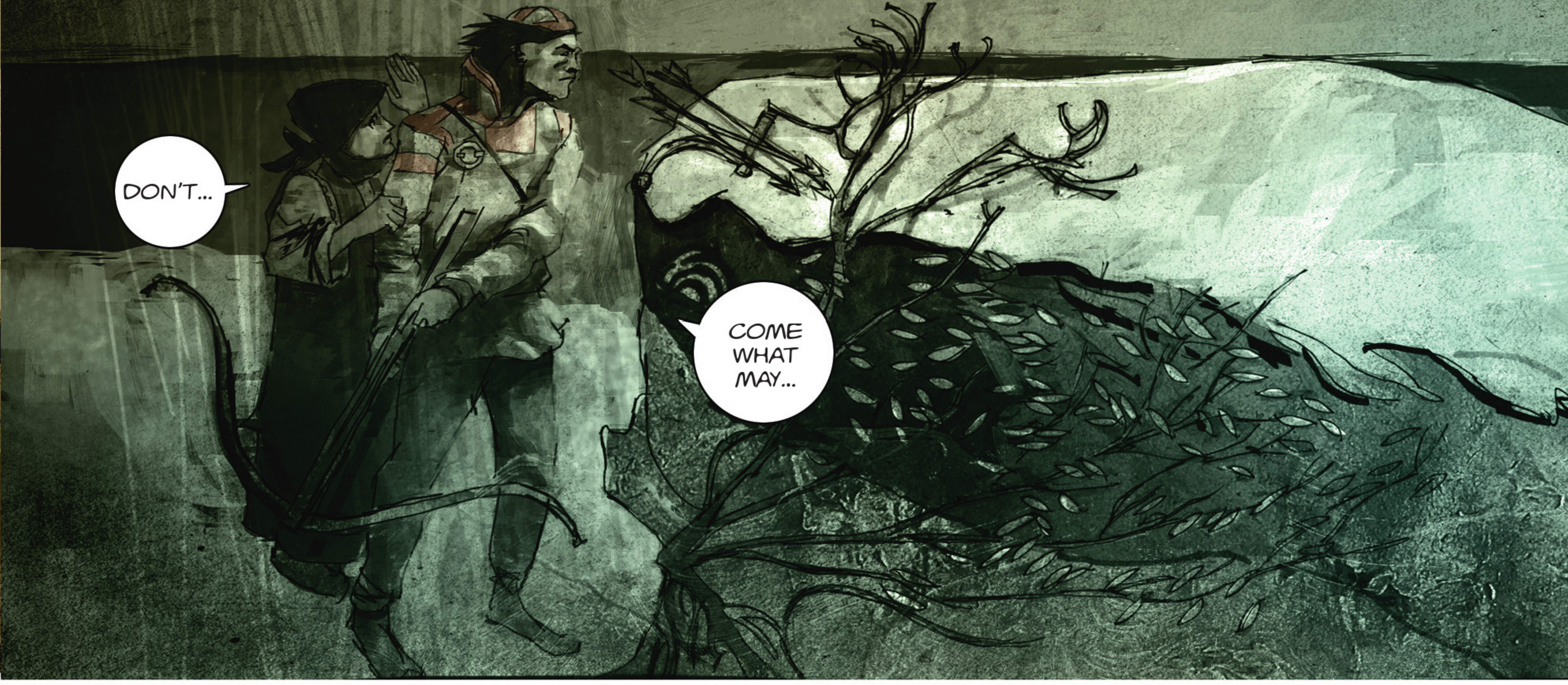


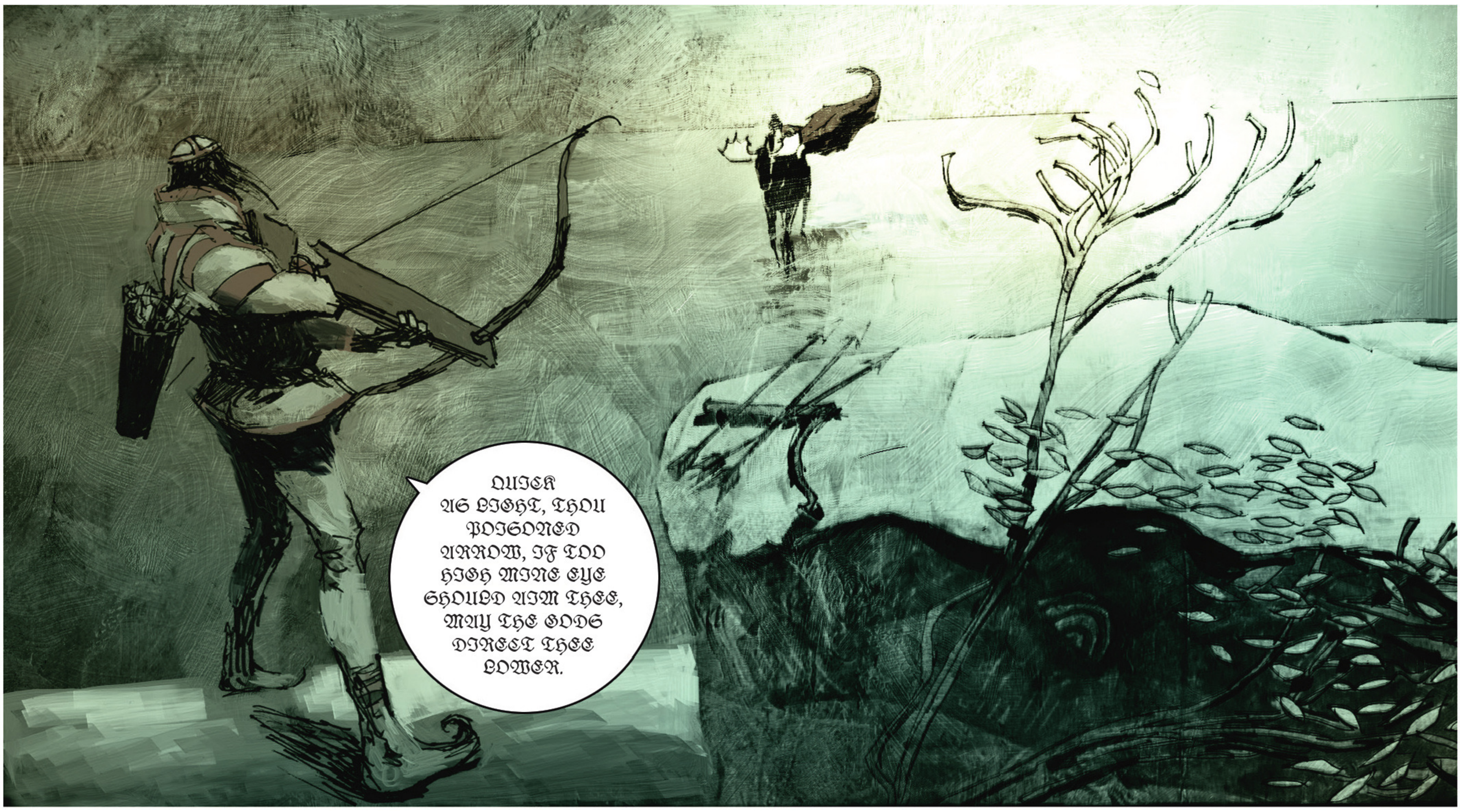
UNTAMO, DREAMER, TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW FROM THE UNDERWORLD!
WHERE ARE VELLAMO'S MAIDENS?
VELLAMO'S MAIDENS PASS THEIR TIME...
AT THE TIP OF THE MISTY POINT...
UNDER THE DEEP WAVES, ABOVE THE MURKY MUD.

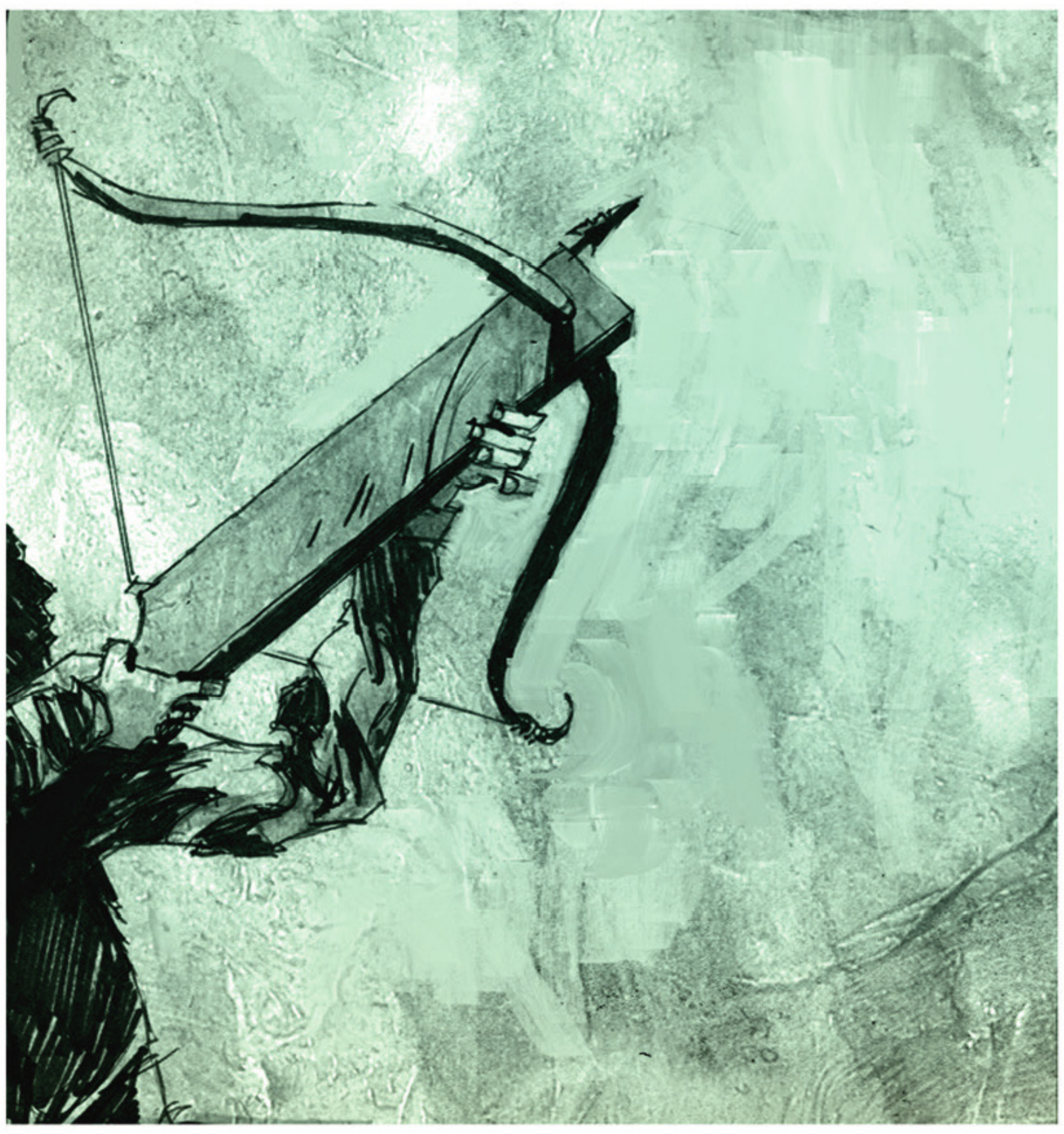
WHAT A STRANGE FISH. I HAVE NEVER SEEN ONE LIKE IT BEFORE.

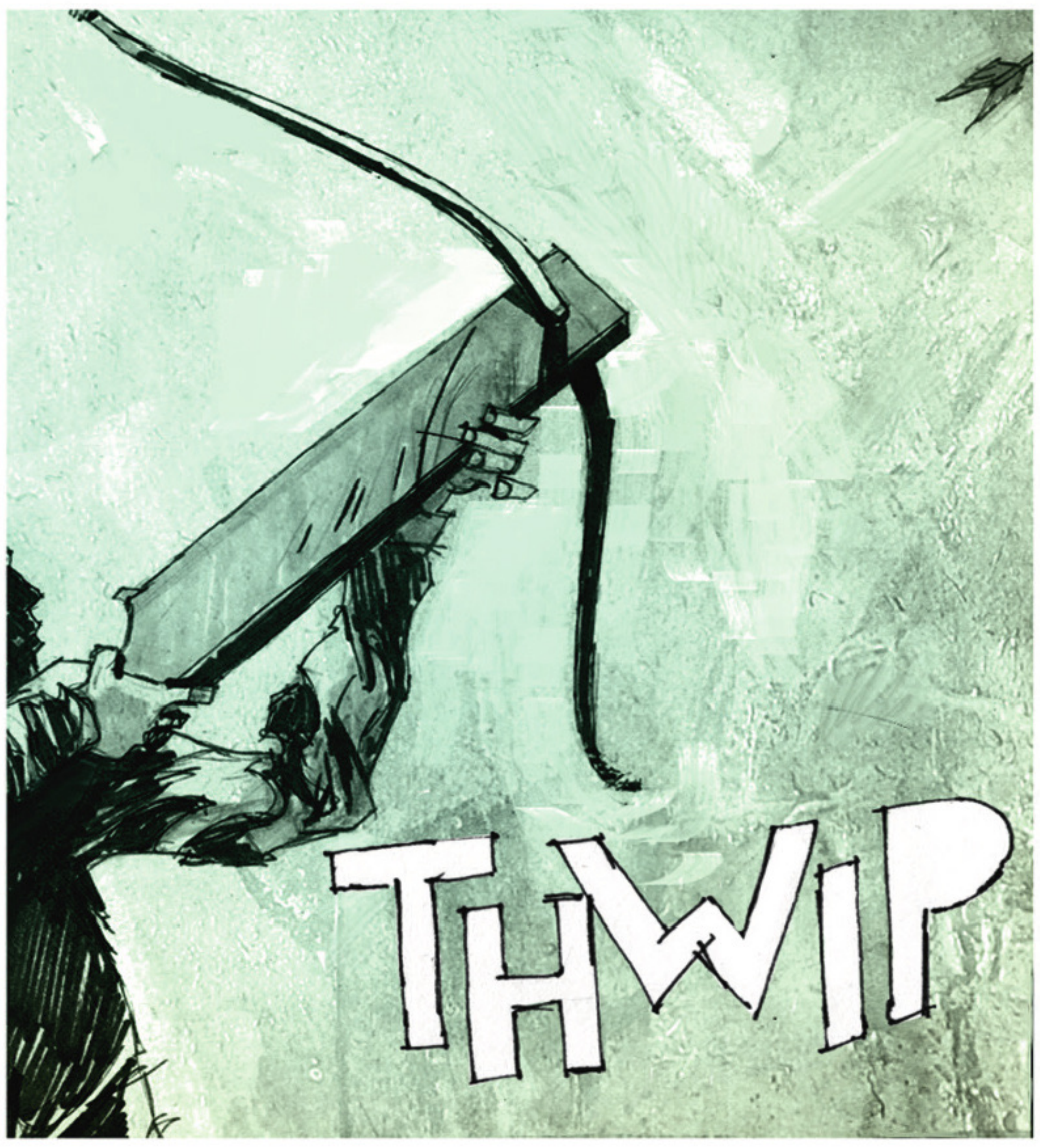
OH, YOU, OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN! I DID NOT COME TO YOU TO BE EATEN FOR BREAKFAST AS A SLICE OF SALMON.
I CAME TO YOU TO BE YOUR FAITHFUL COMPANION.
I AM JOUKAHAINEN'S SISTER, THE ONE YOU WERE AFTER ALL THE TIME.
OH, SISTER OF JOUKAHAINEN! COME TO ME AGAIN!
GO TO THE POHJOLA DAUGHTERS' HOME.




DON'T...
COME WHAT MAY...


QUICK AS LIGHT, THOU POISONED ARROW, IF TOO HIGH MINE EYE SHOULD AIM THEE, MAY THE GODS DIRECT THEE LOWER.




THWIP

THUNK
HHMMMMM
MMMMMMMMMMMMMMM
THAT WAS A BAD THING, YOU WRETCH, SHOOTING VÄINÄMÖINEN.
OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN, YOU'LL NEVER BE ALIVE AGAIN TO WANDER THE WOODS OF KALEVALA.
SIX LONG AUTUMNS AS A FIR-TREE, SEVEN WINTERS AS A PEBBLE!

RRRMMMMM

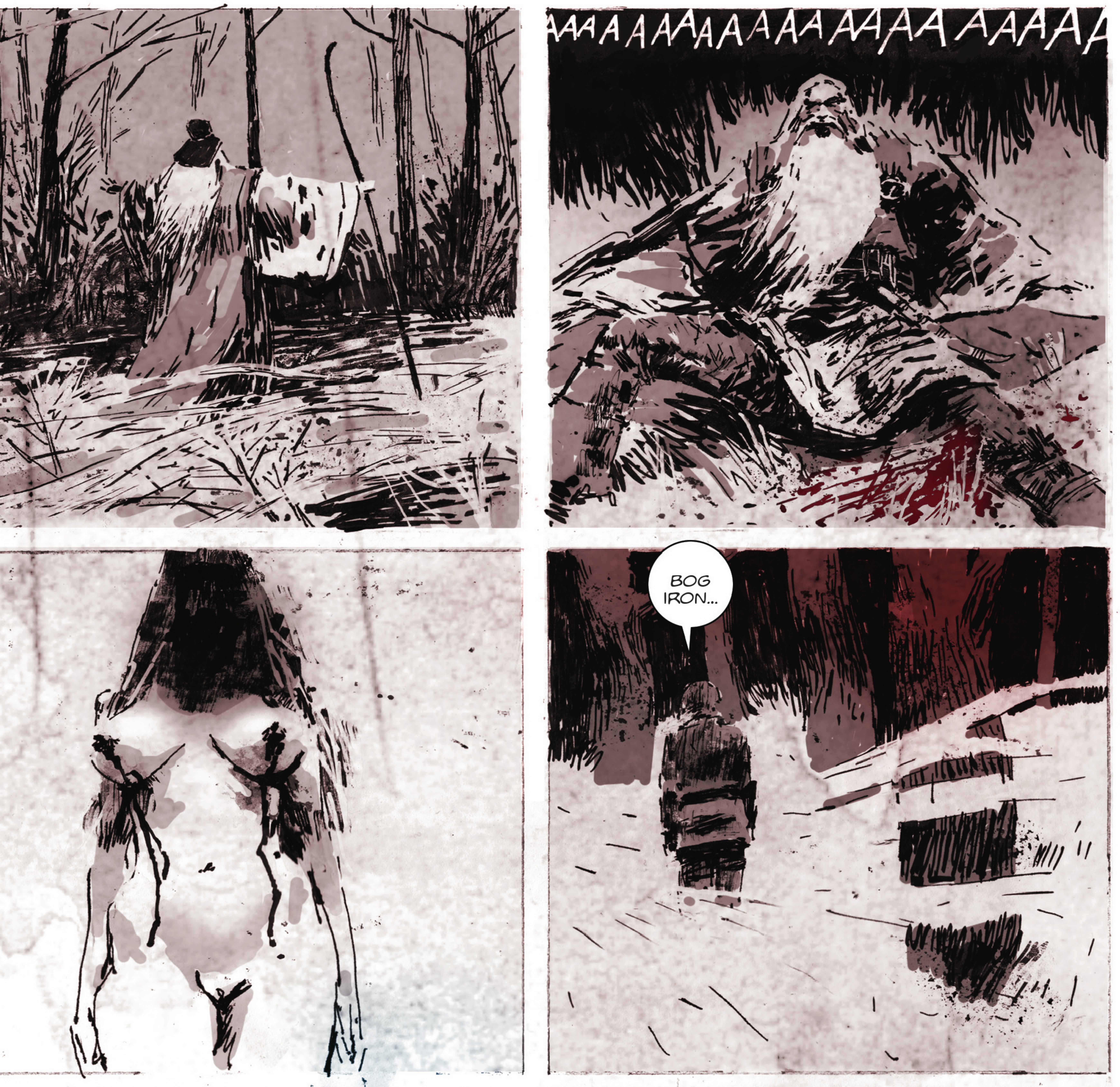
UHU, HUHU HUHU, HU...
WHERE DID YOU BRING ME? A HUNDRED WOUNDS ON MY BODY, TO A NAMELESS SHORE!
POOR MAN. YOU HAVE ENDED UP IN A FOREIGN LAND.

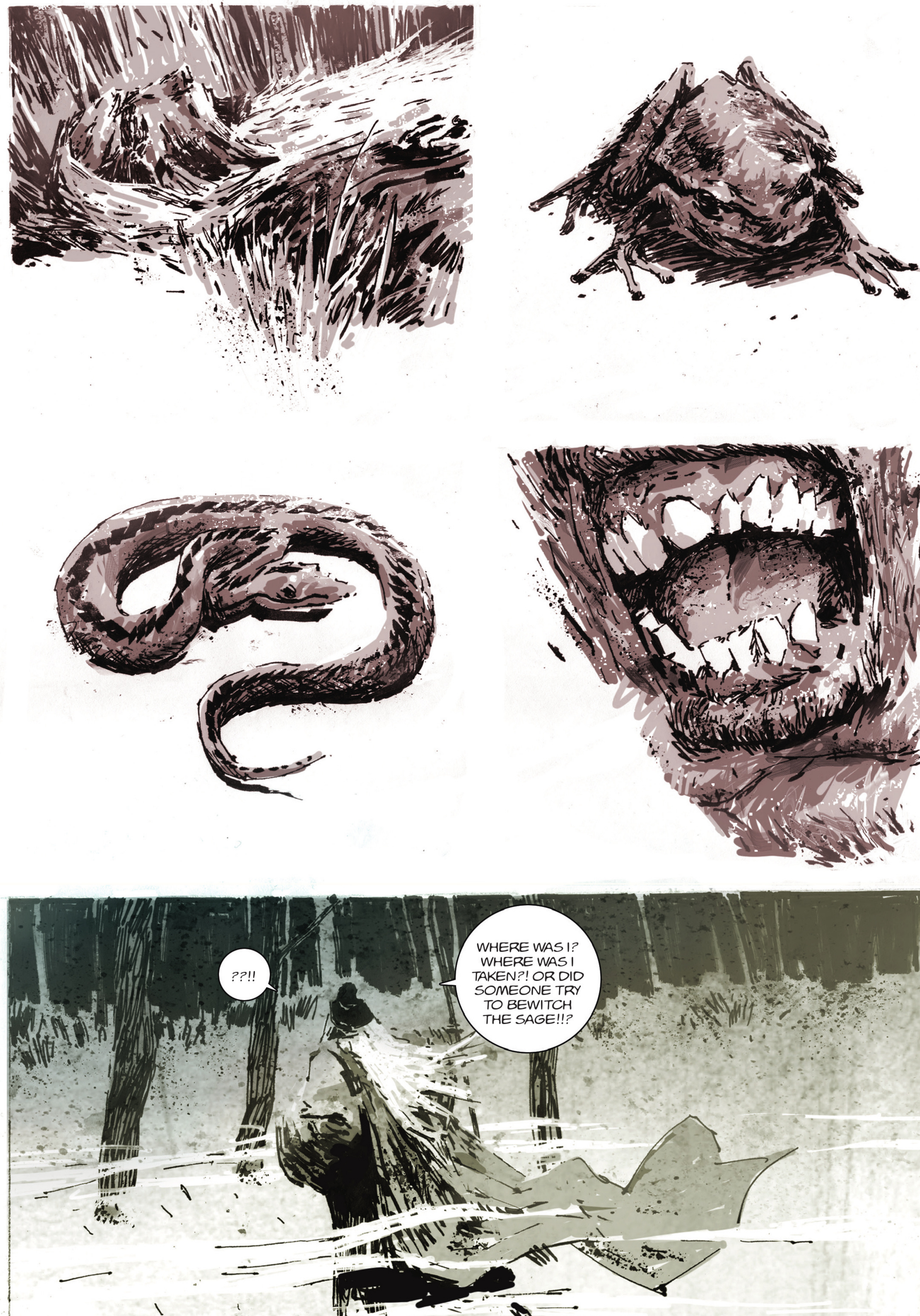
I DO NOT WORK IN MINE OWN POWER, I WALK IN THE STRENGTH OF MY CREATOR; I DO NOT SPEAK IN MINE OWN WISDOM, I SPEAK WITH THE TONGUE OF MIGHTY UKKO.
WHAT KIND OF A MAN ARE YOU, VÄINÄMÖINEN?
FOR EIGHT DAYS AND NINE NIGHTS, I WAS DRIFTING ON SHORELESS SEAS, STROKING THE WAVES WITH MY HANDS. AND I DRIFTED HERE, TO GATES UNKNOWN.
YOU WILL BE FINE HERE, SUVANTOLAINEN.
I NEED TO GET TO MY HOMELAND.
BUT WHAT WILL YOU GIVE ME TO HELP YOU GET HOME?
WHAT ARE YOU ASKING FOR? WILL YOU SETTLE FOR A HELMETFUL OF GOLD...
OH MY, OH, YOU WISEMAN! I DO NOT COVET YOUR SILVER.
BUT COULD YOU FORGE THE SAMPO? WITH ITS LID OF COLORS? FOR THAT, I WOULD GIVE YOU MY DAUGHTER; A MAIDEN AS YOUR REWARD.

I KNOW NOT HOW TO FORGE THE SAMPO. BUT HELP ME TO MY LANDS, AND I WILL SEND YOU ILMARINEN. HE WILL FORGE THE SAMPO FOR YOU.
HE EVEN FORGED THE SKY. WITH NO VISIBLE TRACES OF HAMMER OR TONGS.
I'LL GIVE MY DAUGHTER TO ANYONE WHO FORGES THE SAMPO. I'LL ASK THE MEN TO PREPARE YOU A HORSE.

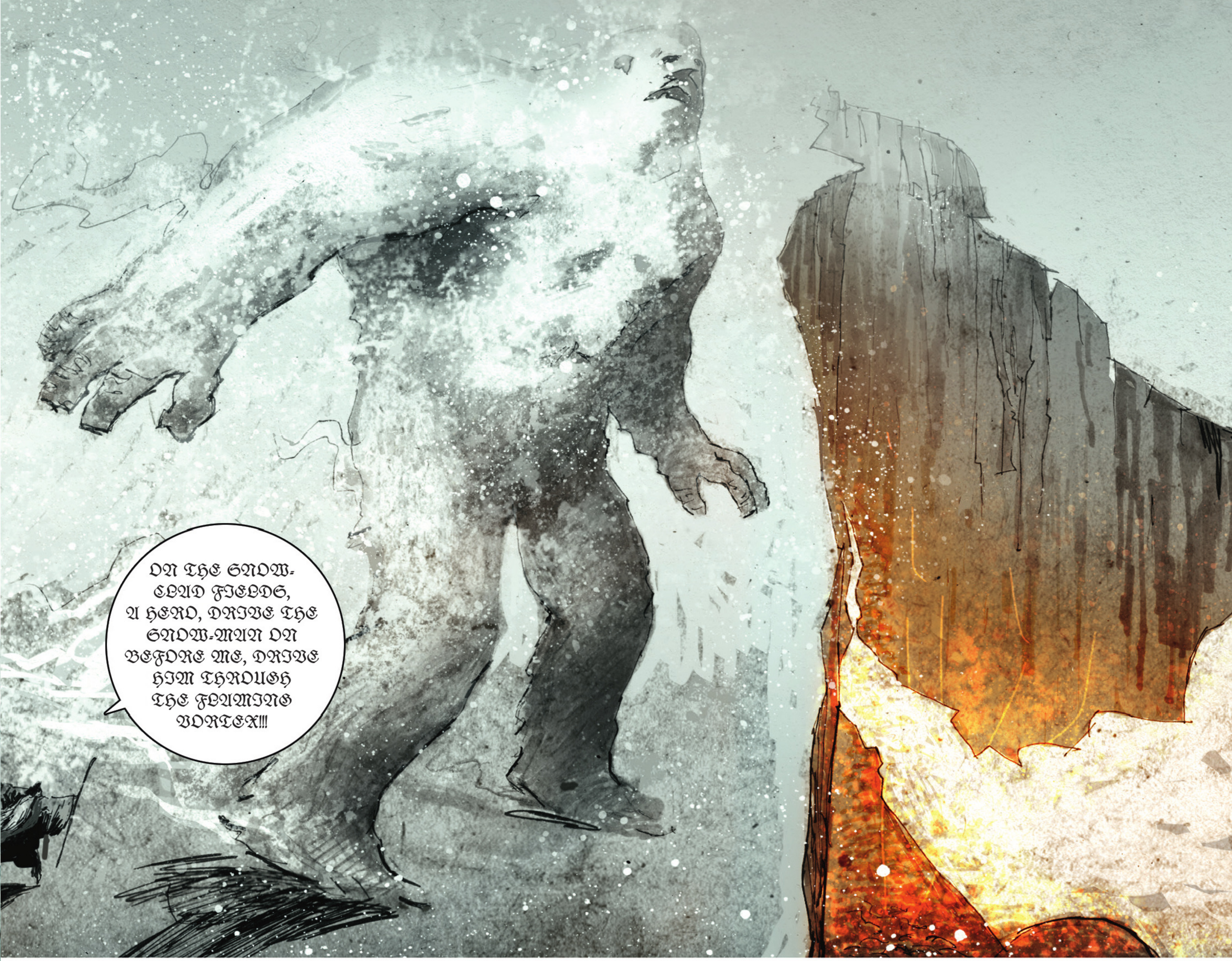
WOULD YOU JOIN ME, MAIDEN?
WHY DO YOU WANT A MAIDEN TO JOIN YOU?
I WILL TAKE YOU AS MY COMPANION TO THE HOMESTEADS OF KALEVALA.
A WIFE IN HER HUSBAND'S HOME IS LIKE A CHAINED DOG.
I WILL COME TO YOU ONLY IF YOU MAKE ME A SHIP FROM THE SPLINTERS OF MY SPINDLE, FROM THE FRAGMENTS OF MY DISTAFF, AND IN THE WATERS LAUNCH THE VESSEL, WITHOUT THE TOUCH OF A HAND.

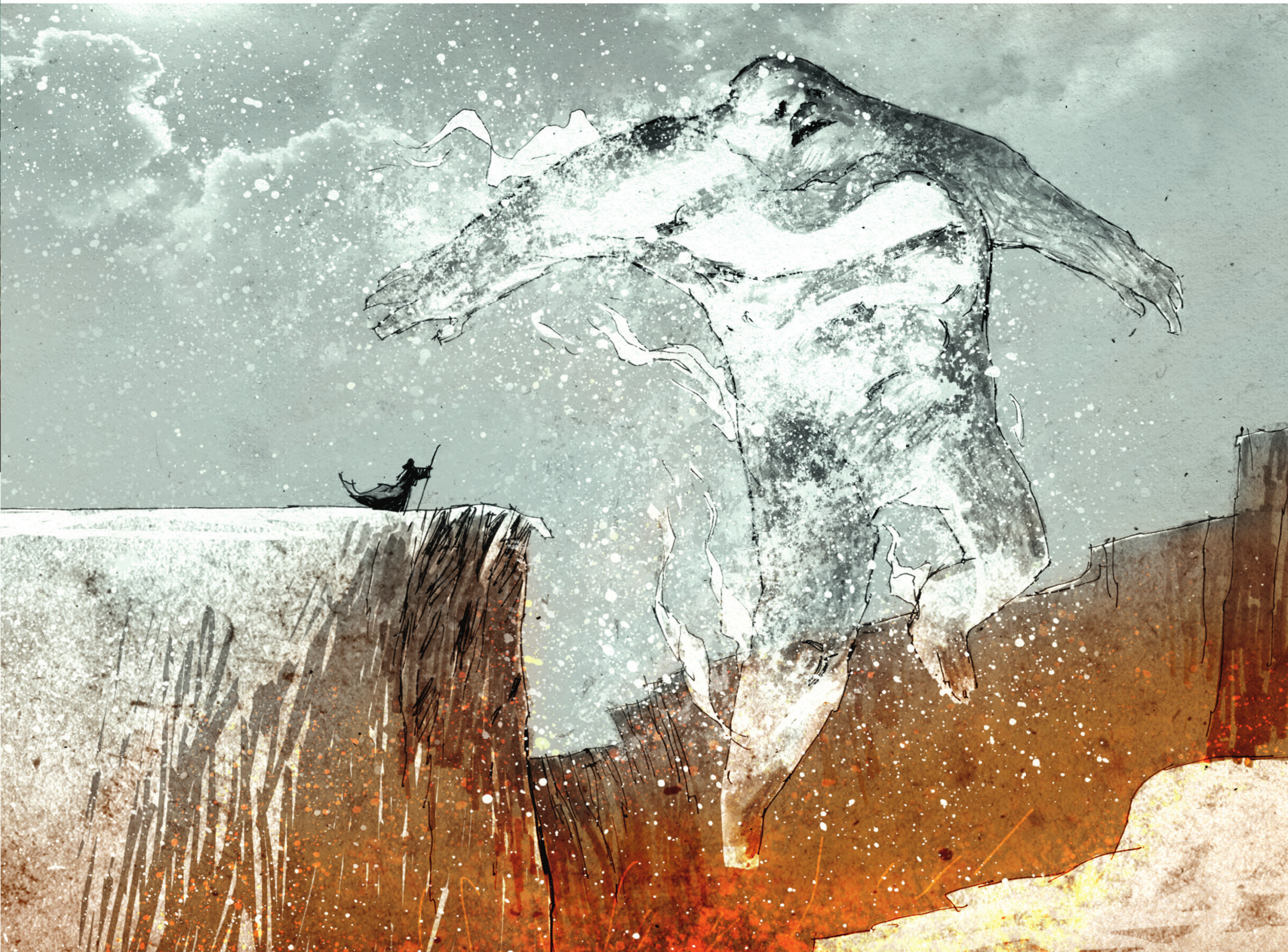
THERE IS NO ONE IN THIS LAND NOR IN THIS WORLD WHO CAN BUILD SUCH A VESSEL--AS WELL AS ME.
VÄINÄMÖINEN DID NOT HONOR HIS AGREEMENT...
I SAW THAT! HE IS TRYING TO TAKE THE GIRL AND KEEP THE FORGER OF THE SAMPO FOR HIMSELF.
VÄINÄMÖINEN KNOWS THE POWERS THAT THE SAMPO HOLDS.
I CURSE...


AAAA A AAAA A AAA AAAA AAAAA
BOG IRON...

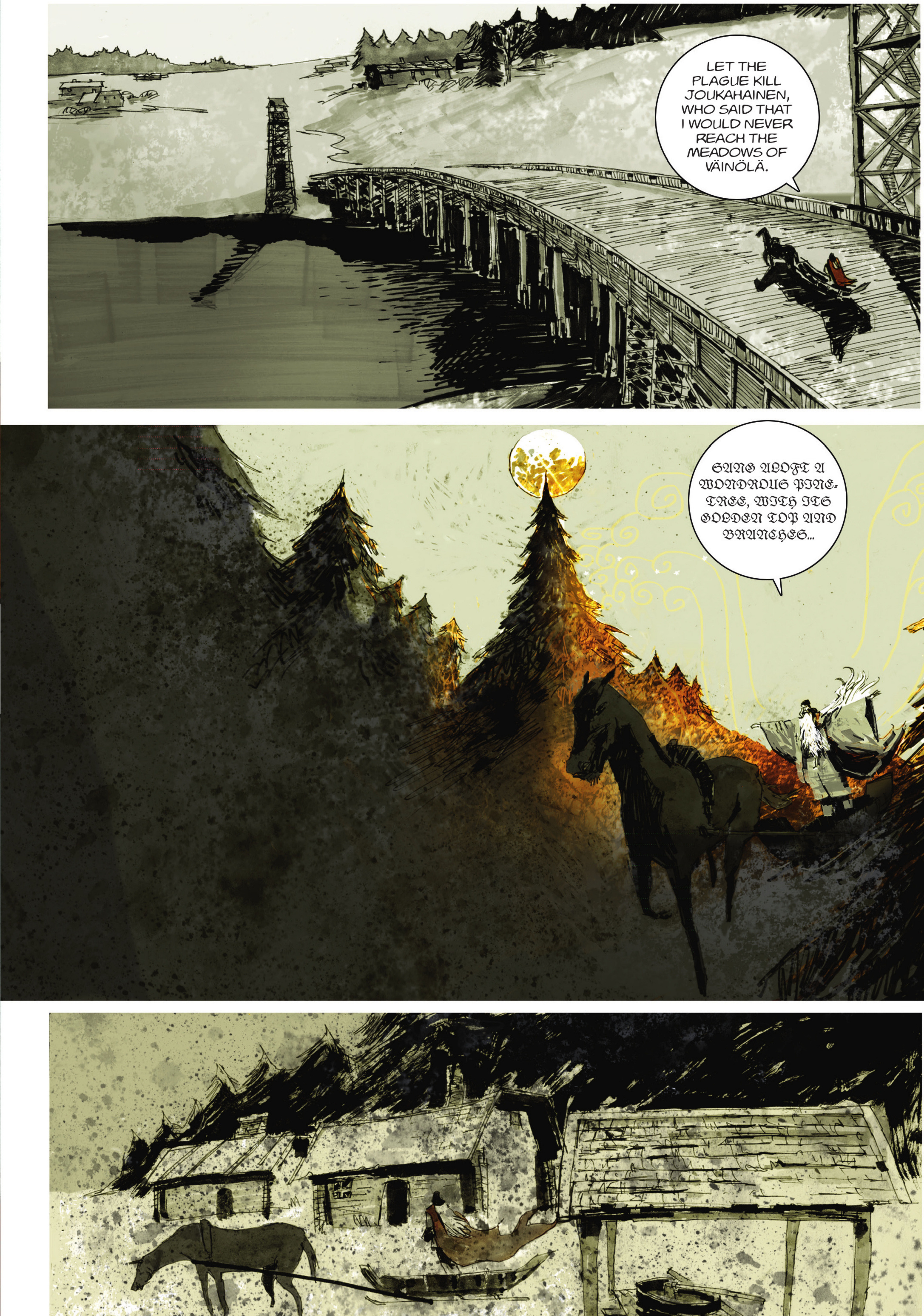

??!!
WHERE WAS I? WHERE WAS I TAKEN?! OR DID SOMEONE TRY TO BEWITCH THE SAGE!!?

PHFFIIIIII VVV VVVVVV.....
I WILL MAKE OF SNOW A MASTER...
YWAHHMMMMMM

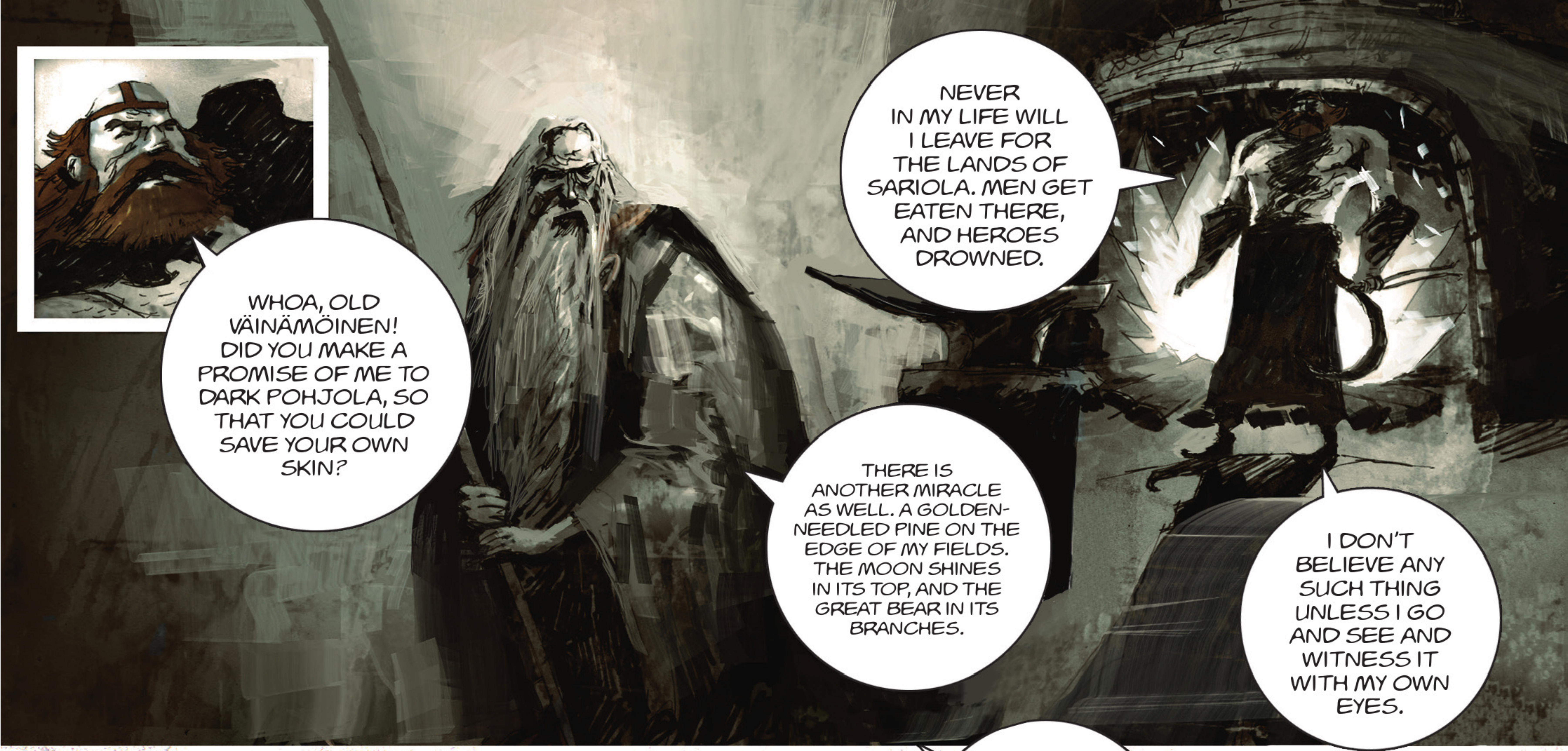

ON THE SNOW-CLAD FIELDS, A HERO, DRIVE THE SNOW-MAN ON BEFORE ME, DRIVE HIM THROUGH THE FLAMING VORTEX!!!

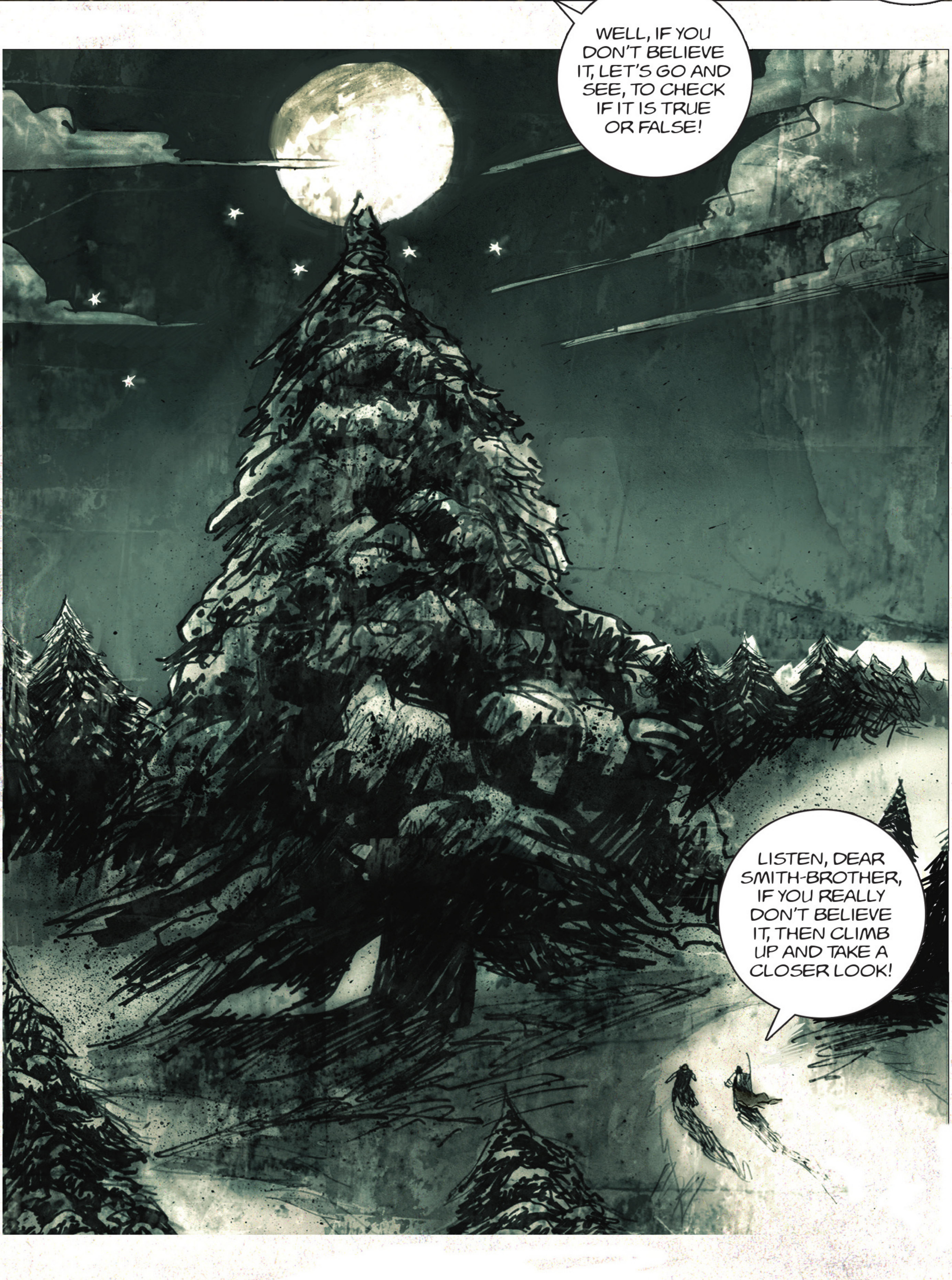


PT-HOOM
RROOOR
SSSSHH


LET THE PLAGUE KILL JOUKAHAINEN, WHO SAID THAT I WOULD NEVER REACH THE MEADOWS OF VÄINÖLÄ.
SANG ALOFT A WONDROUS PINE-TREE, WITH ITS GOLDEN TOP AND BRANCHES...

HELLO THERE, OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AROUND...
WHERE HAVE I BEEN? IN DARK POHJOLA, WANDERING IN THE GLOOMY LAND OF SARIOLA.
SO, WHAT STORIES DO YOU HAVE UPON RETURNING HOME?
I HAVE PLENTY TO TELL.
THERE IS A MAIDEN IN POHJOLA, A VIRGIN OF THE COLD VILLAGE. DAUGHTER OF THE MISTRESS OF POHJOLA, WHO DOESN'T CARE FOR EVEN GOOD MEN.
HALF THE COUNTRY OF POHJOLA EXTOLS HER BEAUTY.
YOU GO AND PROPOSE TO HER, YOU FORGER OF THE SKIES.
LOUHI WANTS THE SAMPO FOR HERSELF AND PROMISED HER DAUGHTER AS A REWARD FOR THE WORK.


WHOA, OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN! DID YOU MAKE A PROMISE OF ME TO DARK POHJOLA, SO THAT YOU COULD SAVE YOUR OWN SKIN?
NEVER IN MY LIFE WILL I LEAVE FOR THE LANDS OF SARIOLA. MEN GET EATEN THERE, AND HEROES DROWNED.
THERE IS ANOTHER MIRACLE AS WELL. A GOLDEN-NEEDLED PINE ON THE EDGE OF MY FIELDS. THE MOON SHINES IN ITS TOP, AND THE GREAT BEAR IN ITS BRANCHES.
I DON'T BELIEVE ANY SUCH THING UNLESS I GO AND SEE AND WITNESS IT WITH MY OWN EYES.


WELL, IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT, LET'S GO AND SEE, TO CHECK IF IT IS TRUE OR FALSE!
LISTEN, DEAR SMITH-BROTHER, IF YOU REALLY DON'T BELIEVE IT, THEN CLIMB UP AND TAKE A CLOSER LOOK!

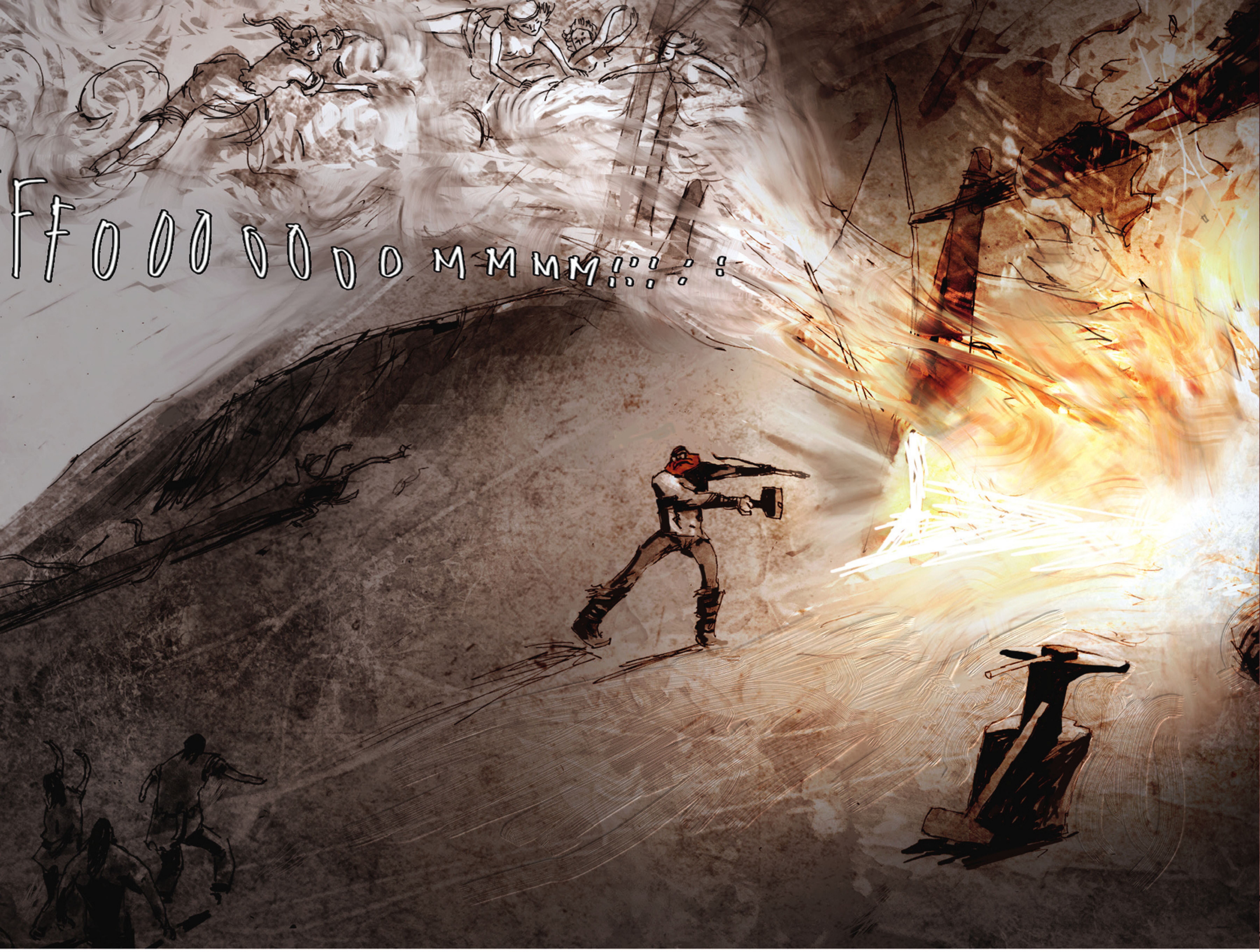
TAKE, O STORM-WIND, TAKE THE FORGE-MAN!
CARRY HIM WITHIN THY VESSEL, QUICKLY HENCE, AND LAND THE HERO ON THE EVER-DARKSOME NORTHLAND!!
DAMN YOU, VÄINÄMÖINEN!!

IT'S A BIRD!
A FLYING MAN!
A GOD!
STOP! WHAT KIND OF A MAN ARE YOU, TO COME HERE ON THE WINGS OF THE WIND, WITHOUT EVEN THE DOGS BARKING?
I DIDN'T COME HERE TO BE TORN APART BY THE DOGS. I AM ILMARINEN, THE SKILLFUL BLACKSMITH.
ILMARINEN!
LAY DOWN YOUR ARMS, YOU FOOLS! WE NEED TO SET THE TABLE FOR OUR GUEST!

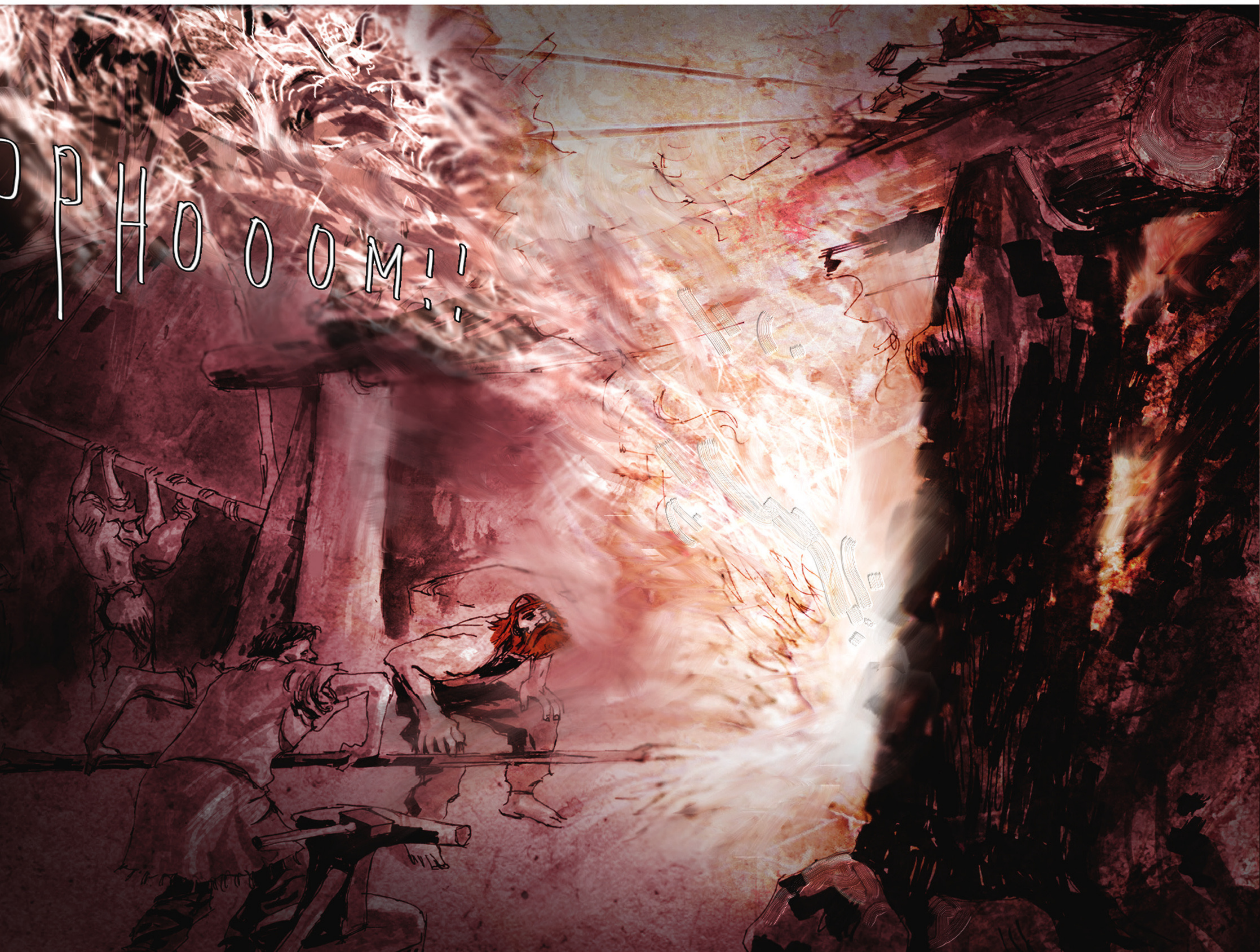
IF YOU FORGE THE SAMPO, MY DAUGHTER IS YOURS.
THIS IS WHERE WE'LL SET UP A SMITHY!

WHUM

WINDS!!!

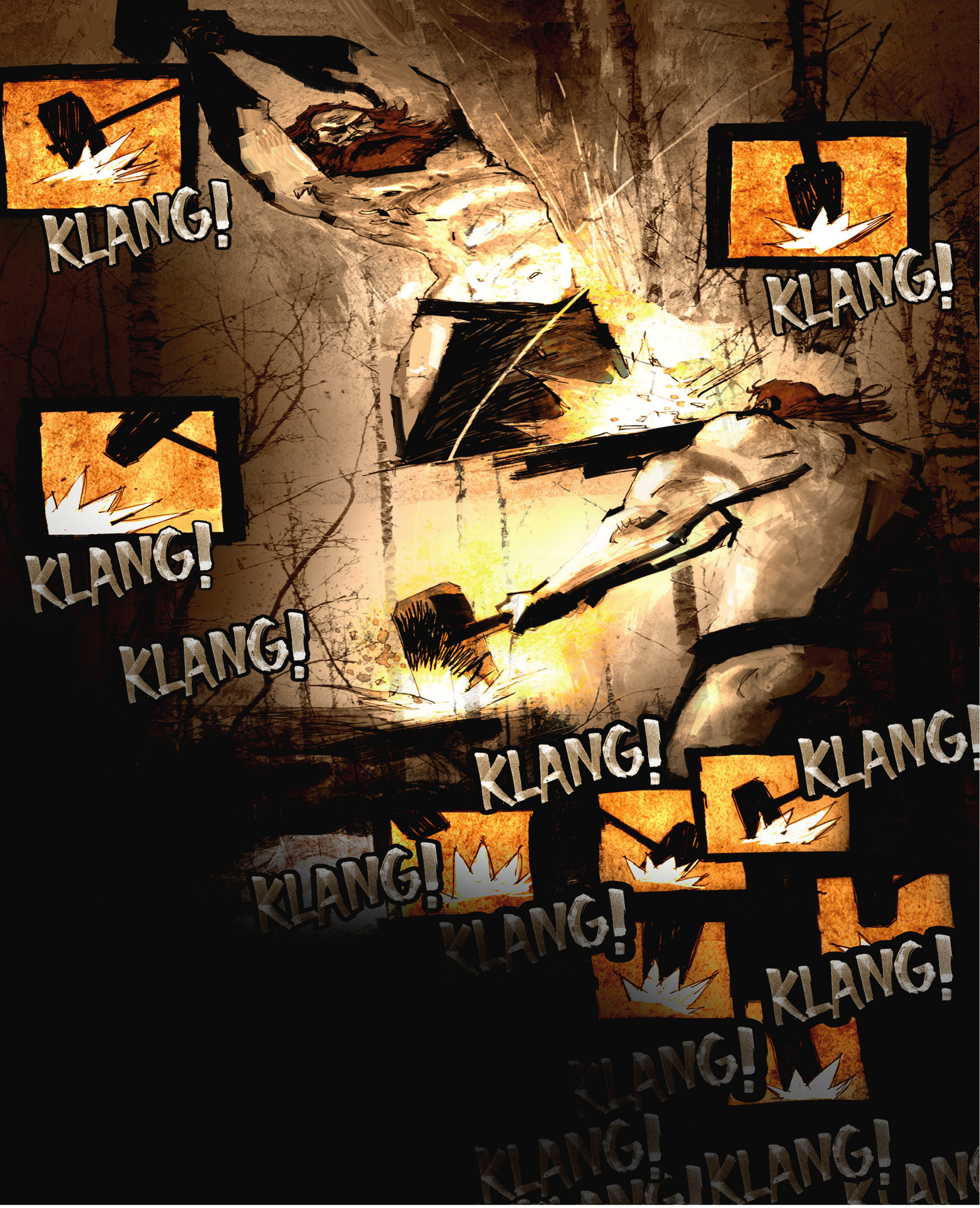


FFOOOOOOOOMMMMM!!!,' !



PHOOOM!!

CCCRUMBBBLLLEEEE!!!!
DOOOM!


KLANG!
KLANG!
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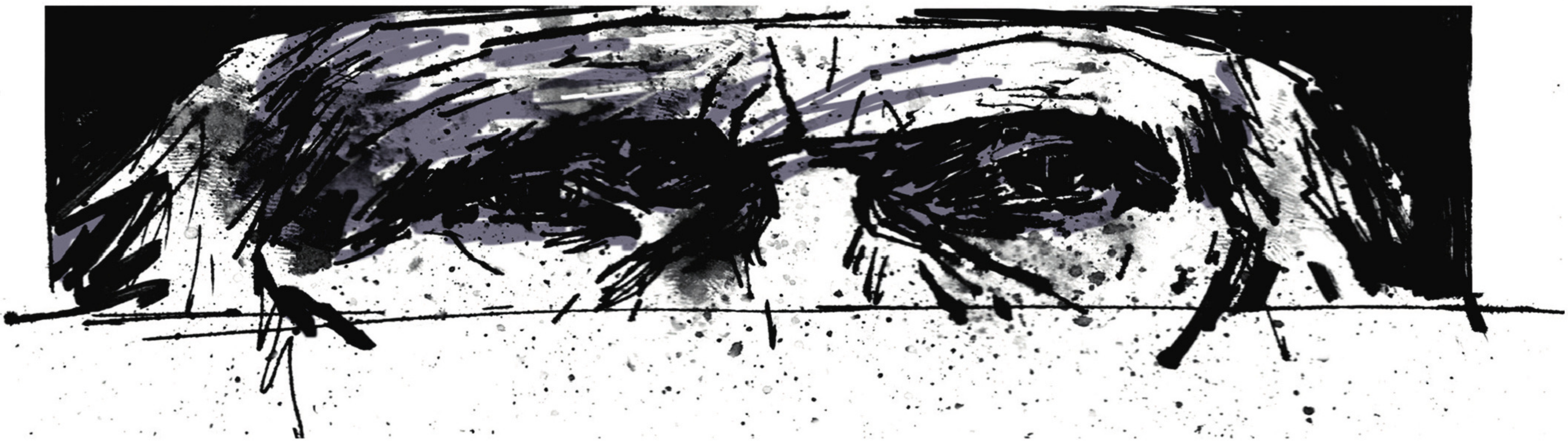
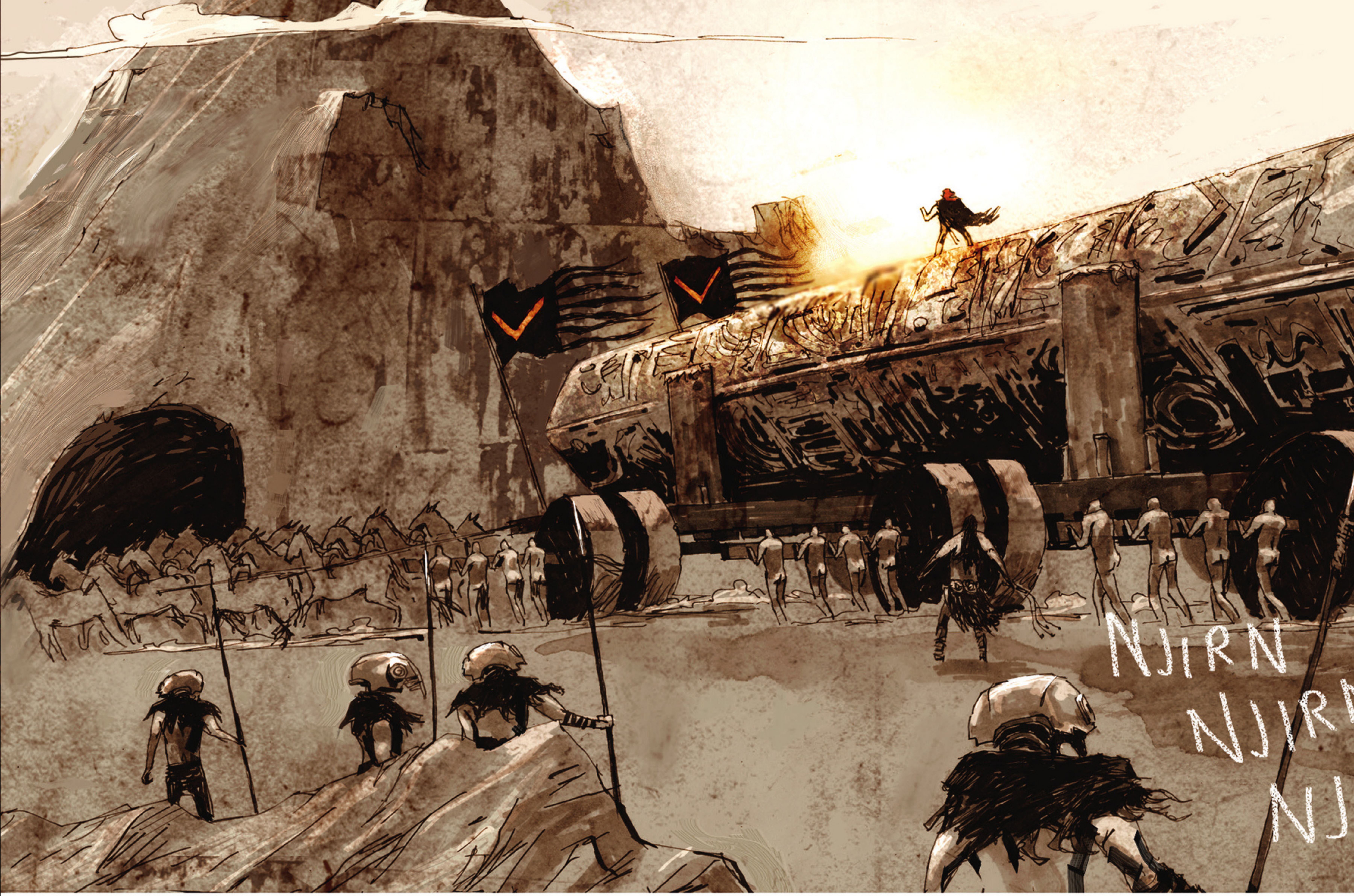
KLANG!

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NJIRN
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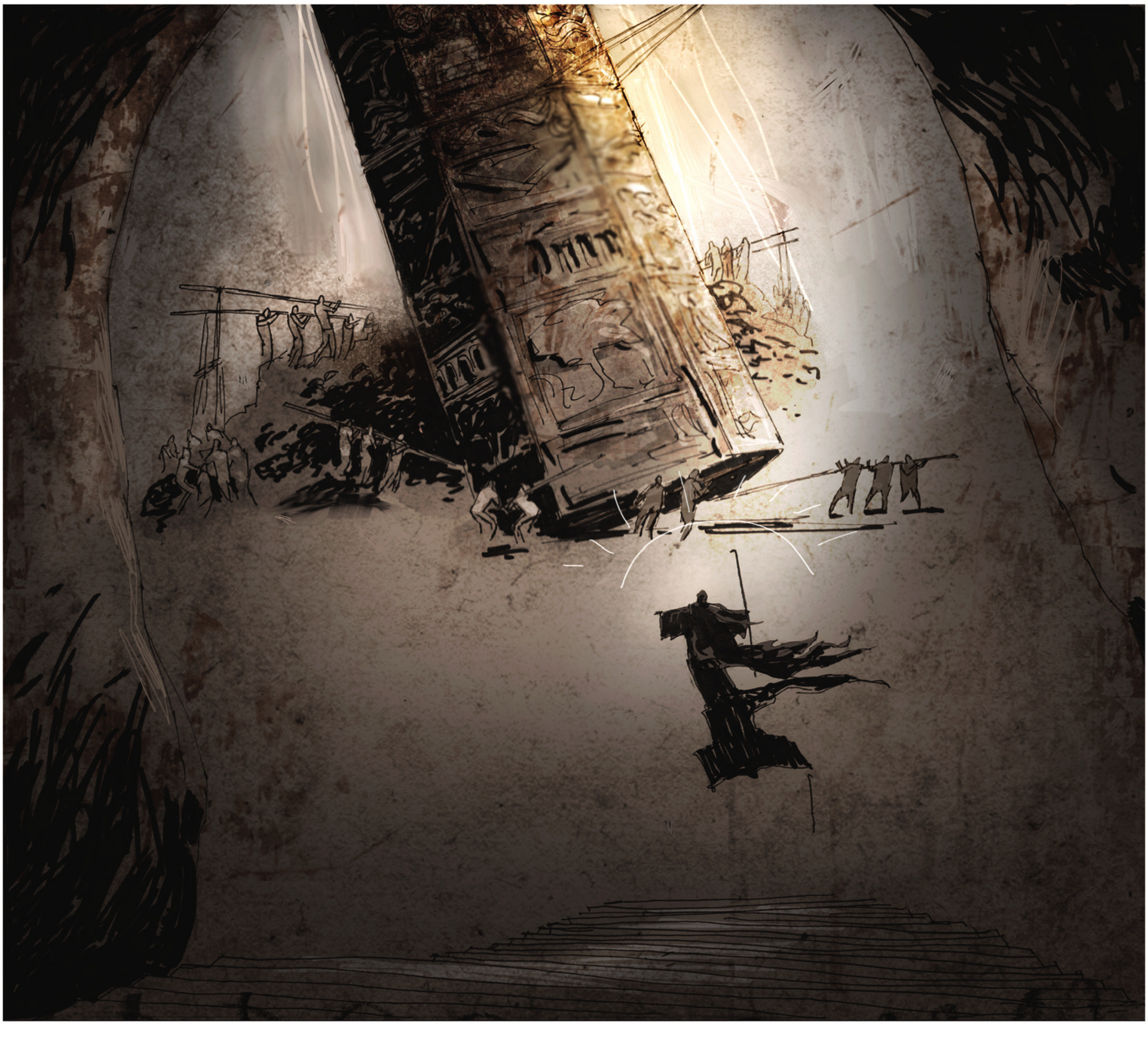
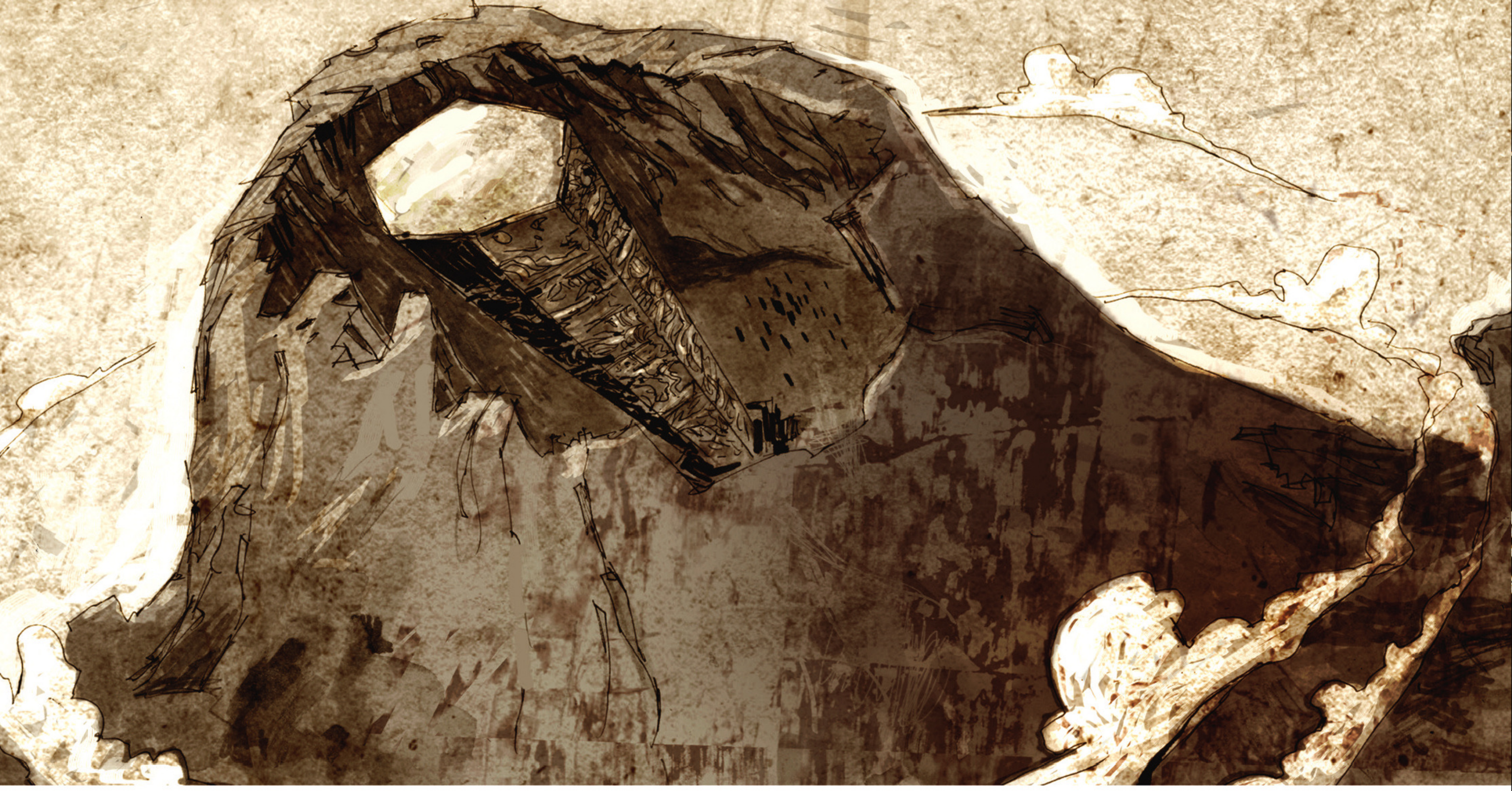
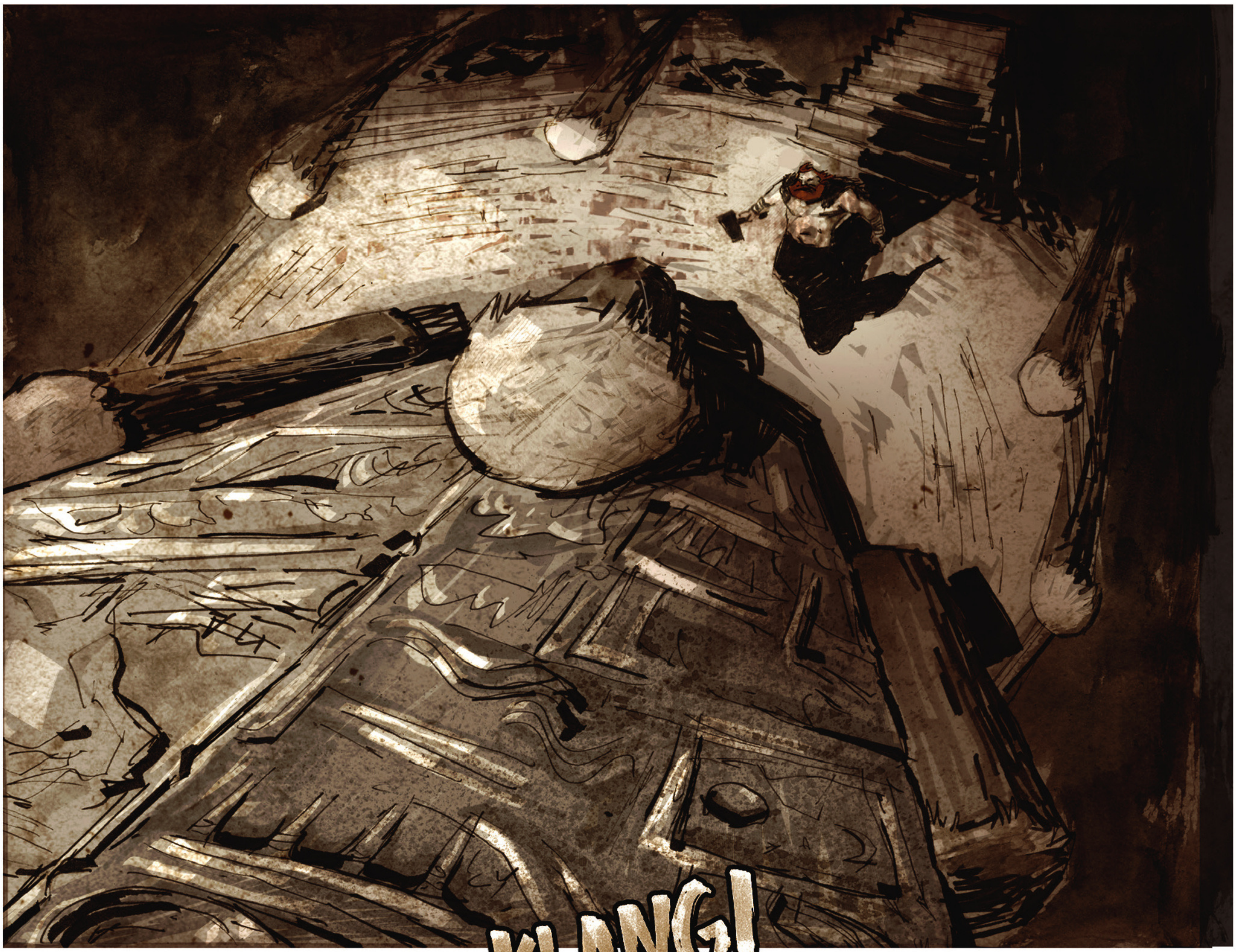






KLANG!

WMMMMMMMMM

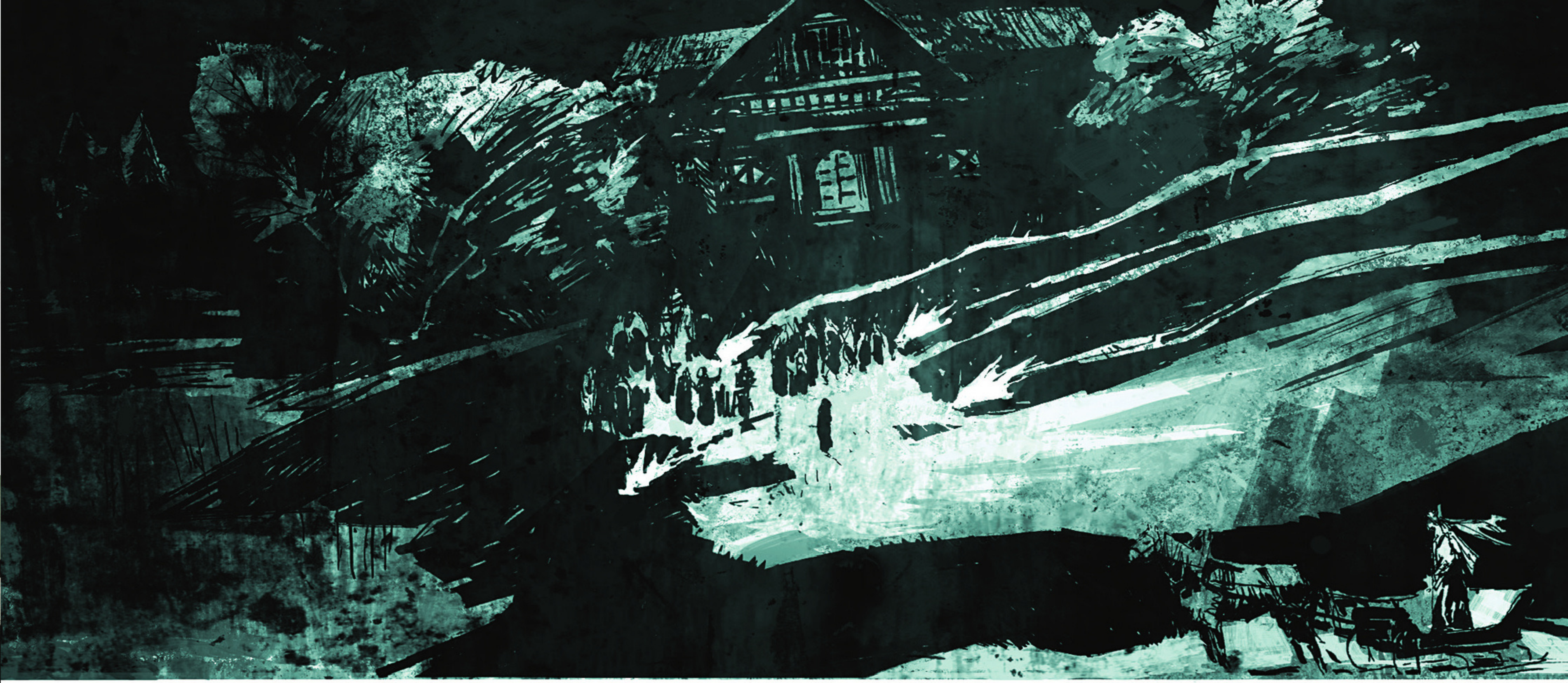
KRAK-BAM!

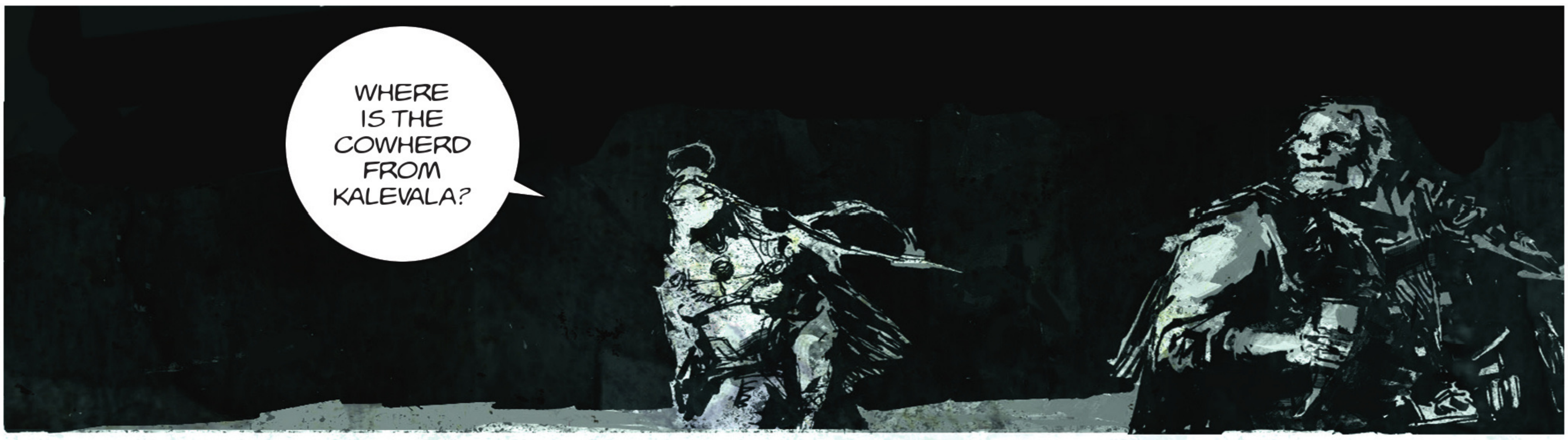
LEMMINKÄINEN

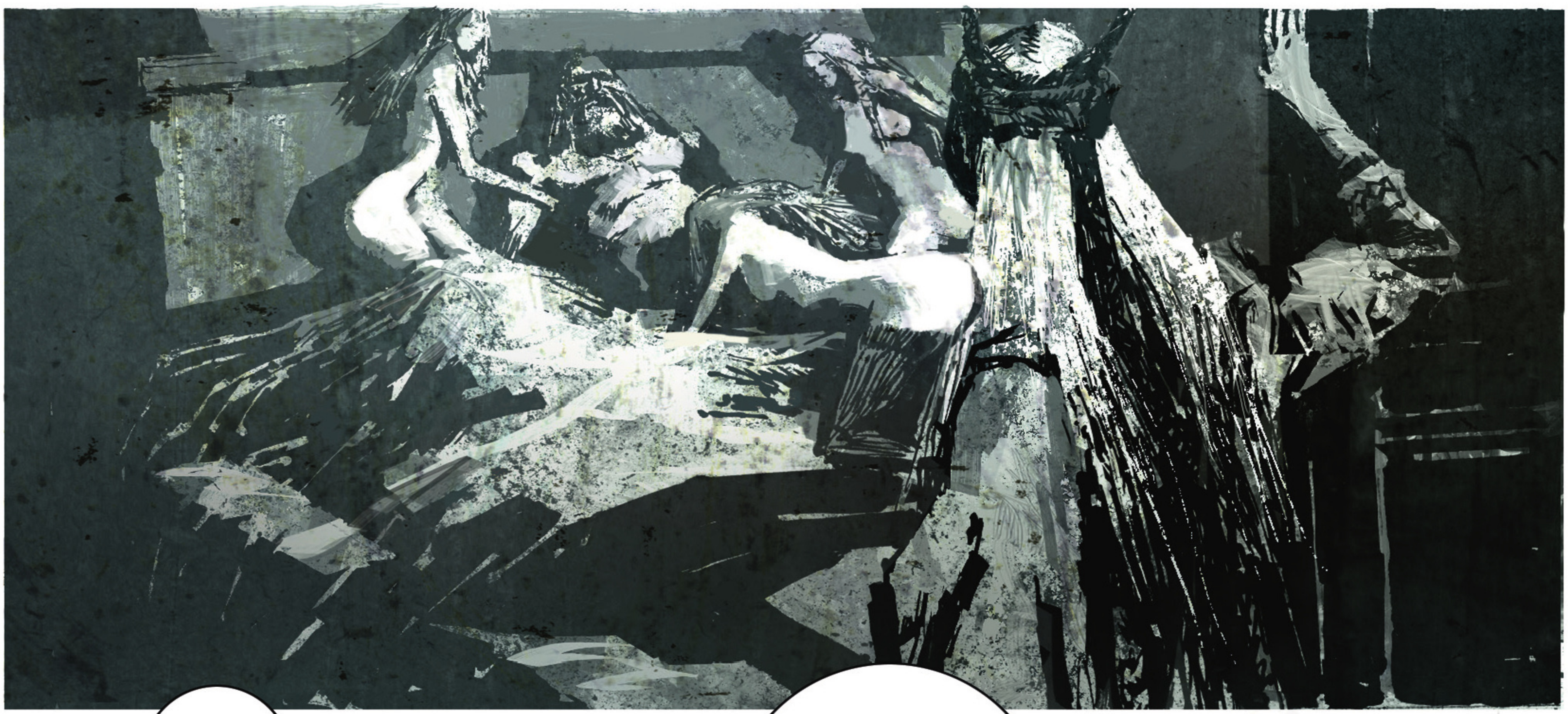
Now is the time to talk of Ahti, the wild son of Lempi, also known as Lemminkäinen.

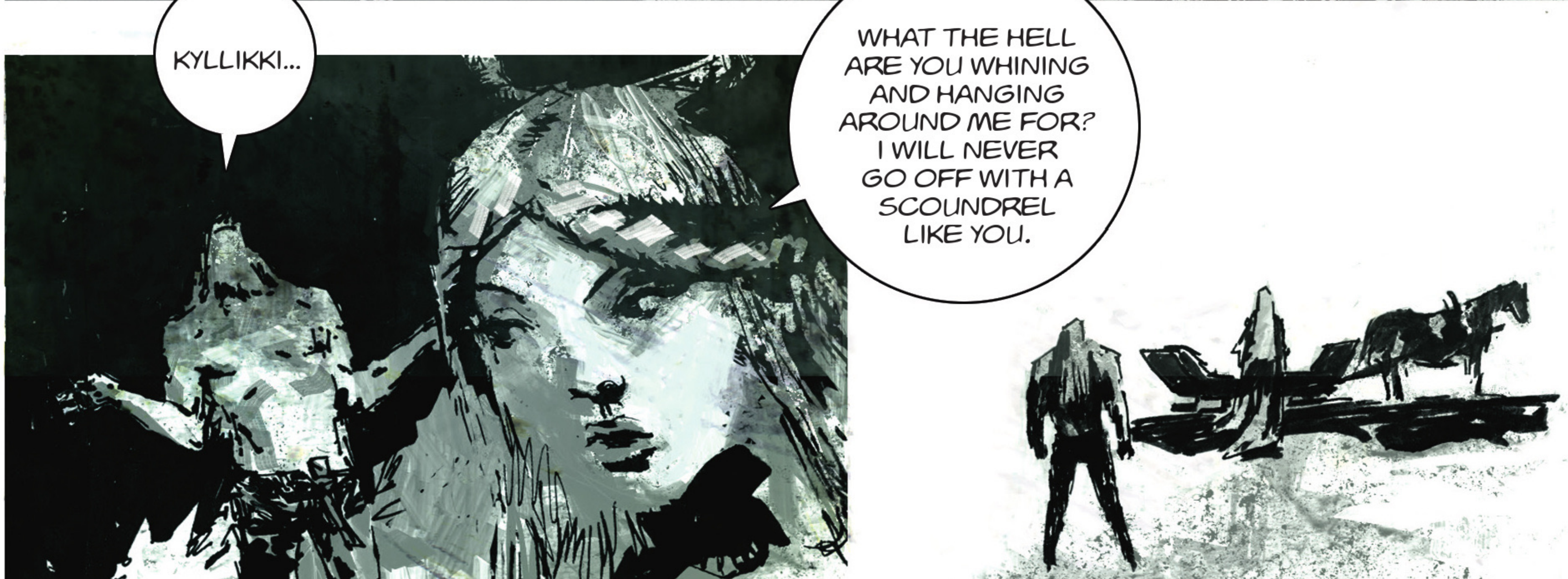
I'M SETTING OUT TO PROPOSE TO THE FLOWER OF THE ISLAND.
I HEAR THAT KYLLIKKI HAS HAD SUITORS ALL THE WAY FROM ESTONIA AND INKERI, BUT SHE PAID NO ATTENTION TO ANY OF THEM.
DO NOT REACH BEYOND YOUR STATUS! THE GREAT ISLAND TRIBE WILL NOT ACCEPT YOU.
I HEAR EVEN THE SUN ASKED HER FOR HIS SON, BUT THE MAIDEN DID NOT GO TO PÄIVÖLÄ.
THE ISLAND FAMILY TRIBE IS VAST INDEED. THE WOMEN THERE WILL LAUGH AT YOU.
I WILL BEGET A BOY IN THE BOSOM OF SHE WHO TITTERS, A BABY IN THE LAP OF SHE WHO LAUGHS.
THAT WILL PUT AN END TO THE WORST OF THE WISECRACKS.
THAT WILL CAUSE CONFLICTS AND WAR! OH, MY POOR DAYS!

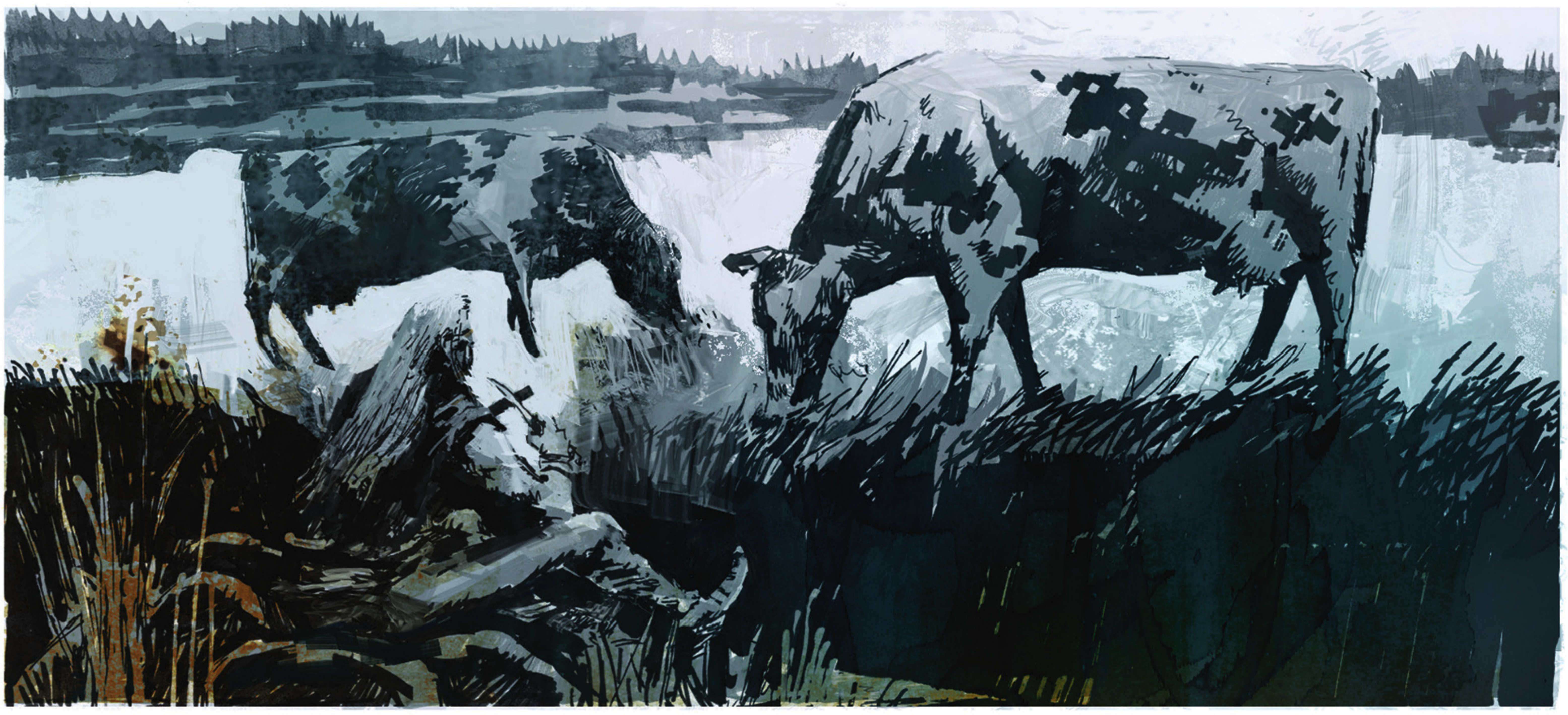
HAVE YOU HEARD ALREADY ABOUT THE MAN FROM KALEVALA, WHO'S BEEN HIRED ON THE ISLAND TO TEND CATTLE?
I HEAR LEMMINKÄINEN WILL SOON HAVE SLEPT WITH EVERY WOMAN IN THE VILLAGE...
BUT HE IS ONLY AFTER THE MAIDEN KYLLIKKI.
I HAVE HEARD... AND MAYBE ALSO SEEN...

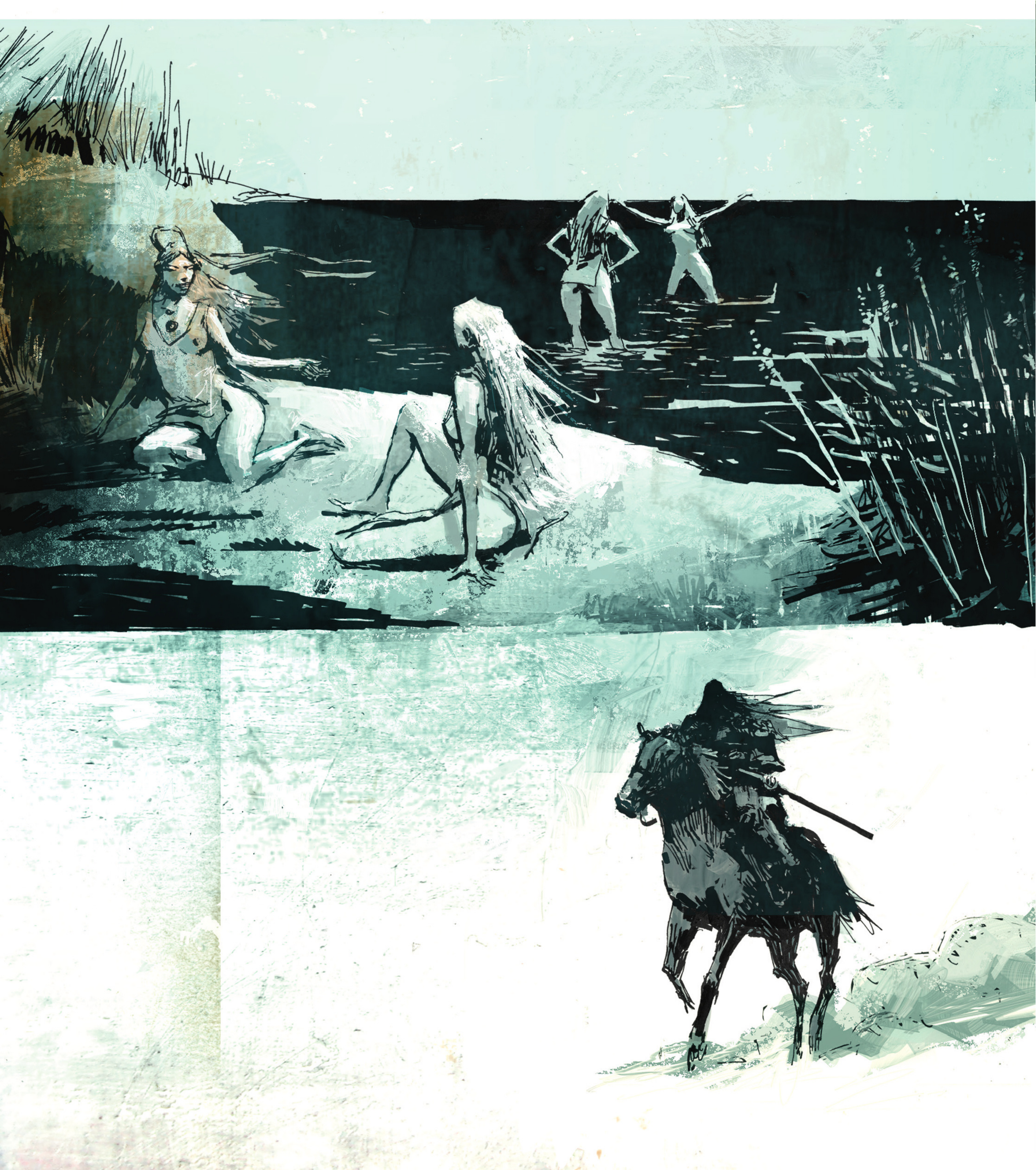



WHERE IS THE COWHERD FROM KALEVALA?




KYLLIKKI...
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU WHINING AND HANGING AROUND ME FOR? I WILL NEVER GO OFF WITH A SCOUNDREL LIKE YOU.





YOU MUST NEVER TELL THAT I WAS HERE AND TOOK KYLLIKKI AWAY!
IF YOU DISOBEY, I WILL TURN YOUR SUITORS INTO SWORD FOOD, AND NEVER EVER WILL THEY RIDE THESE FIELDS AGAIN.

LET ME GO! I DO NOT WANT TO BE WITH SUCH A GOOD-FOR-NOTHING. UNDER THE WING OF A WARRIOR, UNDER THE RULE OF A RUFFIAN!
DON'T FRET! I WILL NOT TREAT YOU BADLY. I MAY NOT BE FROM A FAMOUS FAMILY, BUT I HAVE A FIERY SWORD! SHARPENED BY HIISI, IT WILL MAKE MY FAMILY MIGHTY.
OH, AHTI, IF YOU REALLY WANT ME, SWEAR THAT YOU WILL NEVER GO TO WAR.
I SWEAR. BUT WILL YOU SWEAR THAT YOU WILL NEVER GO TO OTHER VILLAGES LURING MEN TO DANCE?
I SWEAR.

KAA KAA
THAT TOOK THE WHOLE NIGHT, BUT NOW WE HAVE FISH FOR A WEEK! KYLLIKKI, LIGHT THE COOKPOT!

...
DEAR MOTHER! COULD YOU WASH MY SHIRT IN THE VENOM OF A BLACK SNAKE?
COULD YOU DRY IT QUICKLY SO THAT I CAN GO TO THE BATTLEFIELDS OF LAPLAND?
TO THE VILLAGE WENT KYLLIKKI, TO THE HALL OF MANY STRANGERS, WITH THE SONS OF POHJA.
OH, DEAR AHTI! DO NOT GO TO WAR! I HAD A DREAM OF A FIRE, BURNING LIKE A FURNACE, AND IT BURNED DOWN OUR FINE DWELLING!
I DO NOT BELIEVE IN WOMEN'S DREAMS OR WIVES' PROMISES!
YOU WENT AFTER THE SONS OF POHJOLA THE MOMENT I DIDN'T MAKE IT HOME FOR THE NIGHT FROM FISHING!
OH, MOTHER, WHO BORE ME! BRING ME MY COAT OF MAIL, I LONG TO DRINK THE BEER OF COMBAT, THE MEAD OF BATTLE!
TO FIGHT THE MEN OF LAPLAND!

I WANT TO SEE WITH MY OWN EYES IF THERE IS A GIRL IN PIMENTOLA WHO HAS NO TIME FOR SUITORS, NOT EVEN FOR GOOD MEN.
OH NO, AHTI, MY SON! YOU ALREADY HAVE KYLLIKKI IN YOUR HOME.
KYLLIKKI RUNS TO THE VILLAGE. LET HER NOW RUN AFTER PLEASURE, LET HER SLEEP IN EVERY DWELLING!
WITCHES HAVE CAST SPELLS ON ME BEFORE.
DO NOT GO, MY DEAR BOY, TO THE HOMES OF POHJOLA, YOU DO NOT KNOW SPELLS AND MAGIC. TURJALAINEN THE WITCH SINGS THERE AND WILL SHOVE YOUR FACE INTO THE ASHES.
I WAS THREATENED A LOT BUT NOT TROUBLED.
THEY WANTED TO SINK ME IN THE SWAMP TO BE STEPPED ON, UP TO MY NECK IN SLUDGE.
BUT NONE OF THIS ALARMED ME MUCH AS I BECAME A MAGICIAN MYSELF.
I SANG THE WITCHES INTO THE RAPIDS OF TUONELA, UNDER THE HIGHEST WATERFALL. LET THEM, WITCHES, SLEEP THERE UNTIL THE GRASS GROWS THROUGH THEIR HEADS.
ONLY WHEN THE COMB OOZES DROPS OF BLOOD WILL LEMMINKÄINEN HAVE MET HIS FATE.

He took his sword, pushed it into the sheath and tied it to his waist.
And where two roads crossed, in the mire of a sloshy marsh, he summoned the swordsmen from the earth.
RISE YE HEROES OF THE BROADSWORD, YE, THE EARTH'S ETERNAL HEROES!!
FROM THE DEEPS, YE SICKLE-BEARERS, FROM THE BROOKS, YE CROSSBOW-SHOOTERS, COME, THOU FOREST, WITH THINE ARCHERS, COME, YE THICKETS, WITH YOUR ARMIES,

aijti tustatt, taijti
waijwat mäne
rustijan tallijo
ratå

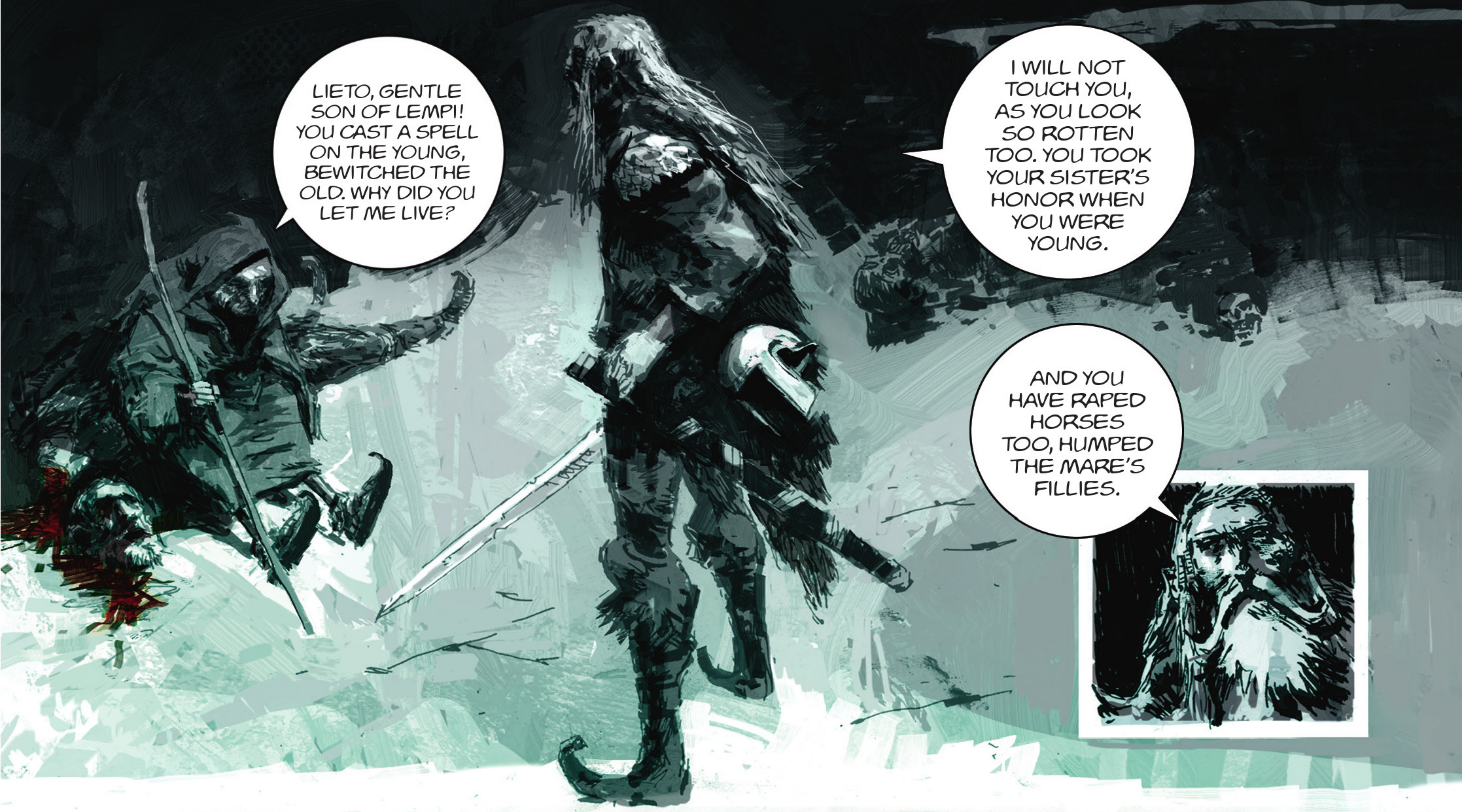
A GOOD SONG DOESN'T GO ON TOO LONG. BETTER TO END TIMELY THAN HAVING TO BREAK IT OFF.
WHAT KIND OF MAN ARE YOU, WHO CAN ENTER WITHOUT THE DOGS HEARING OR THE GUARDS NOTICING?
I DIDN'T COME HERE WITHOUT CAUTION...
TO BE FED TO THE DOGS.

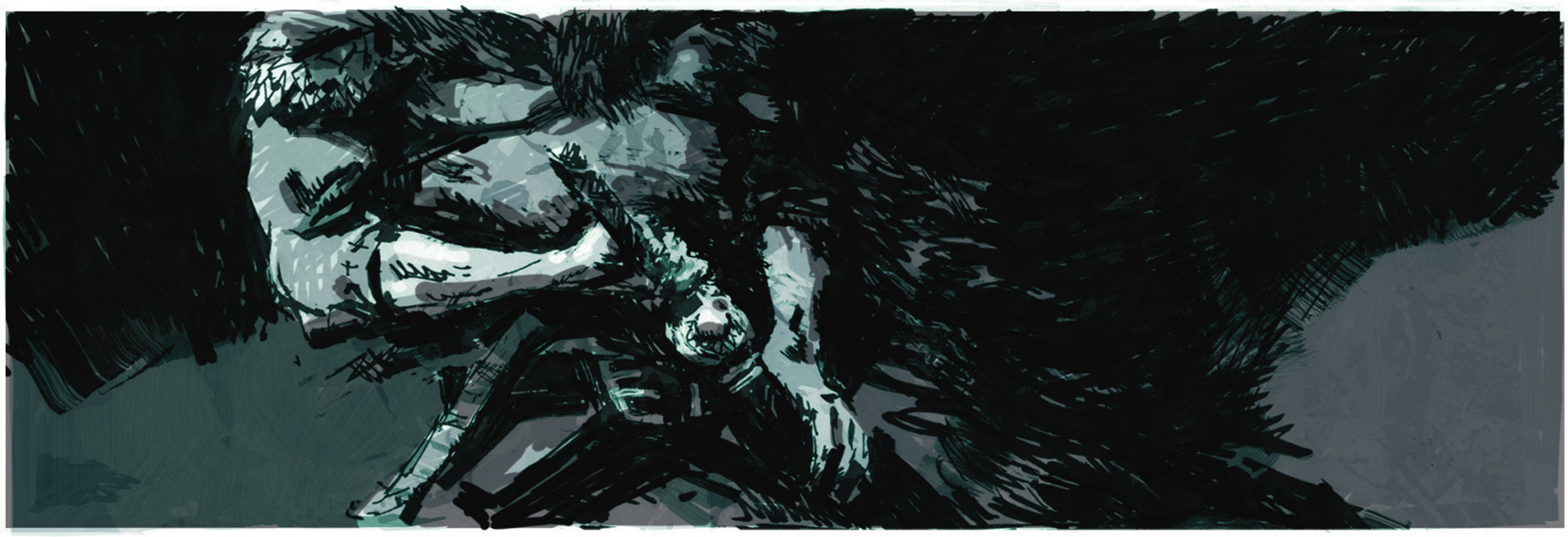
ZTRAK
ZTRAK
ZTRAK

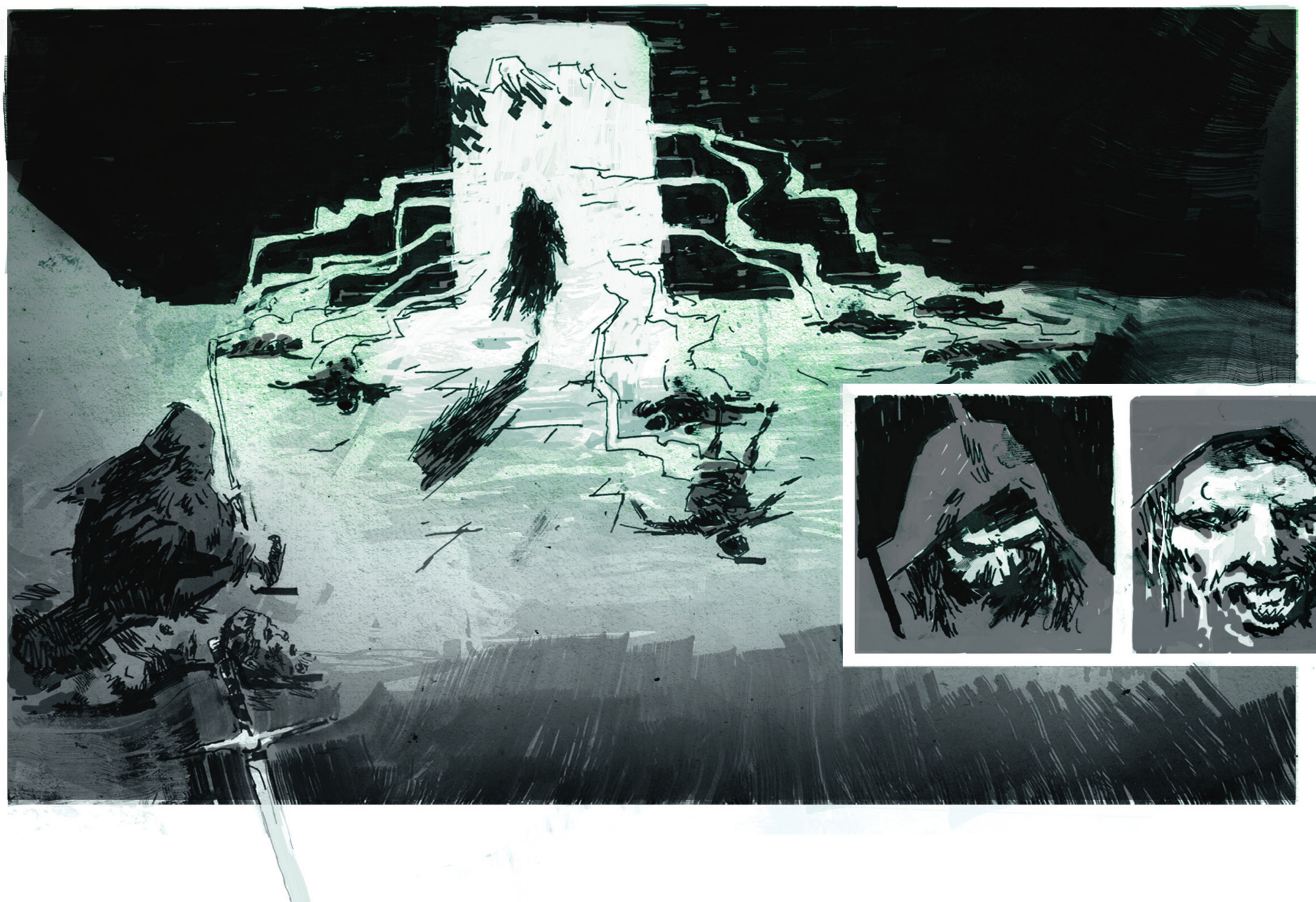
SKRAK

Z+RAK
Z+RAK
Z+RAK
KIRDI NOAIDI?!
RRA

KRROGG
ZTRAK
SM '15


LIETO, GENTLE SON OF LEMPI! YOU CAST A SPELL ON THE YOUNG, BEWITCHED THE OLD. WHY DID YOU LET ME LIVE?
I WILL NOT TOUCH YOU, AS YOU LOOK SO ROTTEN TOO. YOU TOOK YOUR SISTER'S HONOR WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG.
AND YOU HAVE RAPED HORSES TOO, HUMPED THE MARE'S FILLIES.





??!
YOU WALKED RIGHT INTO AN AMBUSH!!
I MAY SPARE YOUR MISERABLE LIFE IF YOU CAN EXPLAIN YOUR ACTIONS.
I CAME TO GET YOUR DAUGHTER, WOMAN. GIVE ME THE BEST ONE OF ALL, THE TALLEST GIRL OF THE LOT!
THUNK
HAVE YOU HEARD OF VÄINÄMÖINEN, THE HERO OF KALEVALA?
NO.
I WILL REMOVE YOUR MAGIC POWERS, WIZARD. YOU MUST CATCH HIISI'S ELK FOR ME; THAT WAY, I MAY SPARE YOUR LIFE. AND ONLY THEN ASK ABOUT GIRLS.

THERE SURELY ARE NO FOUR-LEGGED CREATURES UNDER THE STARS THAT KALEVA'S SON CANNOT CATCH ON SKIS.

KRASH
CRUN
KRIPP
ALPANDIR...

RRAAA!!
HNNGH!!

THO THOOM
PTHUI.

FIELDS AND STREAMS AND WOODS OF LAPLAND, BRING ME FAVOR, MOUNTAIN-WOODLANDS, LAPLAND-DESERTS, SHOW ME KINDNESS. MIGHTY TAPIO, BE GRACIOUS. LET ME WANDER THROUGH THY FORESTS.

WHEN YOU SHOOT THE SWAN OF THE BLACK RIVER OF TUONELA, I WILL GRANT YOU MY DAUGHTER.

Thus sank wild Lemminkäinen, rattling down the rapids, all the way to the dens of Tuonela.

(thok)
(thok)
(thok)

I KNOW NOT WHERE HE WENT AND DISAPPEARED. COULD HE HAVE FALLEN THROUGH THE ICE?
I SENT HIM TO GET THE SWAN FROM THE BLACK RIVER.
OH, ME, POOR OLD WOMAN, OH, MY SON!!
WHERE HAVE YOU GONE, AHTI, SON OF LEMPI!

OH SUN, SHINE FOR ME FULL OF POWER! STILL THE PEOPLE OF MANALA, TUONI'S EMPIRE!!
QUIET!!!

KrK

SUONETAR, THOU SLENDER VIRGIN, GODDESS OF THE VEINS OF HEROES!

I THINK I SLEPT LONG.
YOU WOULD HAVE SLEPT EVEN LONGER, WERE IT NOT FOR YOUR MOTHER.

KHOFF
KHOFF

THE WEDDING OF POHJOLA

WHAT IS THAT HUGE THING YOU INVOKED, OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN?
I AM BUILDING A NEW SHIP.
THREE WORDS ARE STILL MISSING FROM THE SPELL TO PLACE THE GUNWALES...
BUT WHERE DO I GET THESE WORDS, FROM THE BRAINS OF SWALLOWS?
I DESTROYED A WHOLE FLOCK OF SWANS, SWARMS OF SWALLOWS. I CHOPPED UP A FIELDFUL OF DEER BUT GOT NOWHERE WITH THE WORDS!
I'LL FIND HUNDREDS OF WORDS IN THE DWELLINGS OF TUONI, THE ETERNAL HOUSE OF DEATH!

BRING THE BOAT HERE, CHILD OF MANALA, WITH THAT FERRY I CAN CROSS THE STRAIT!
THE BOAT WILL BE BROUGHT FROM HERE ONCE YOU GIVE THE REASON FROM THERE! WHAT BRINGS YOU TO MANALA? YOU ARE NOT YET DEAD!
THE MASTER OF MANALA TOOK ME FROM MY LANDS!
I CAN EASILY SPOT A LIAR. SPEAK THE TRUTH, VÄINÄMÖINEN!
I WAS MAKING A SHIP WITH SPELLS. BUT, ON THE THIRD DAY, I RAN OUT OF WORDS. SO, I SET OUT FOR TUONELA, TO GET THE SPELL. BRING THE BOAT HERE NOW, SO THAT I CAN CROSS THE STRAIT!

OH, VÄINÄMÖINEN, YOU LEFT FOR MANALA ALIVE, CAME TO TUONELA UNTOUCHED BY DEATH.

TUONETAR...

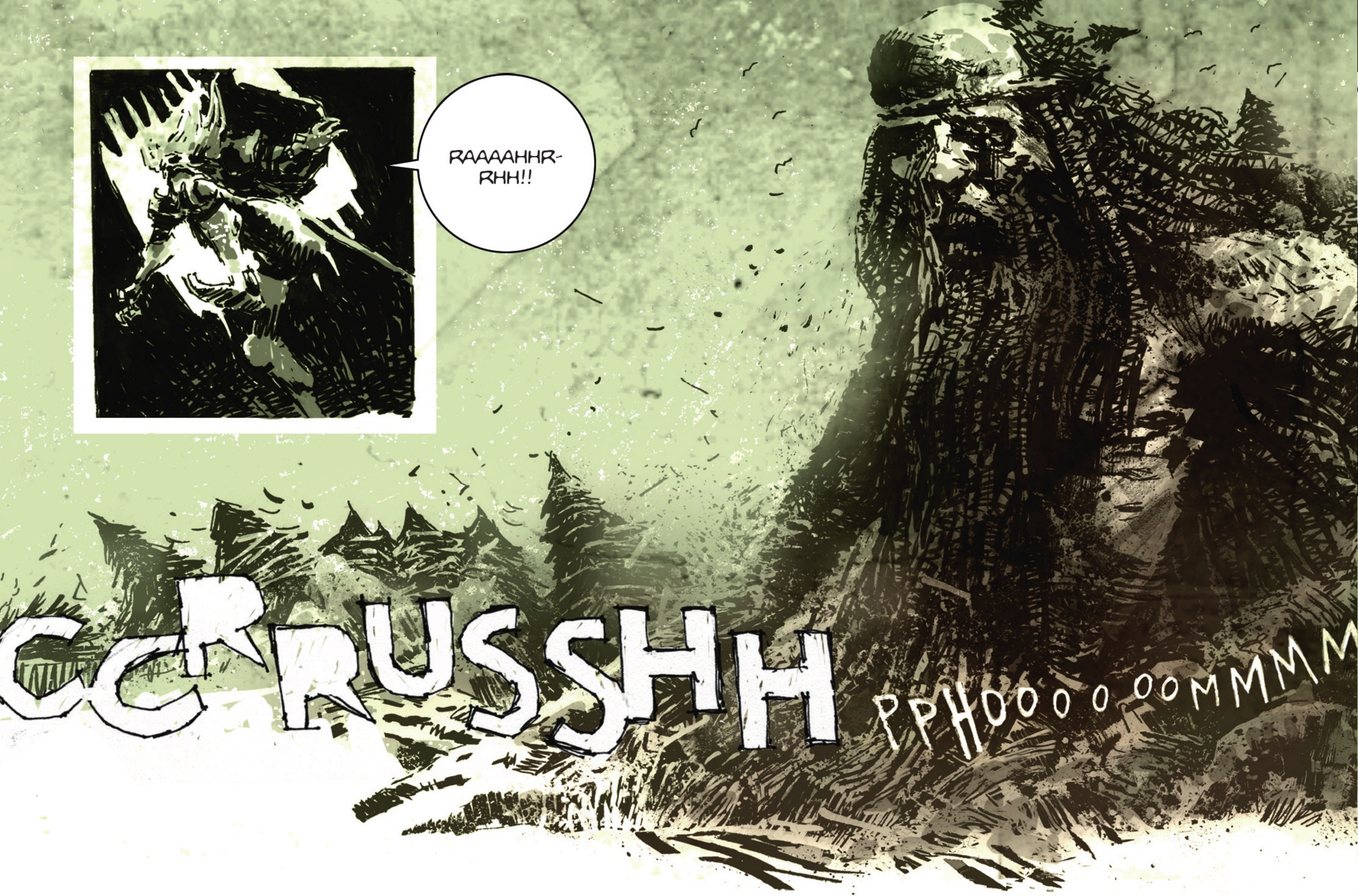
TUONI WILL NOT YIELD WORDS, NOR PART WITH POWER!
AND YOU WILL NEVER LEAVE HERE TO RETURN HOME, TO WALK AND AMBLE ON YOUR LANDS.

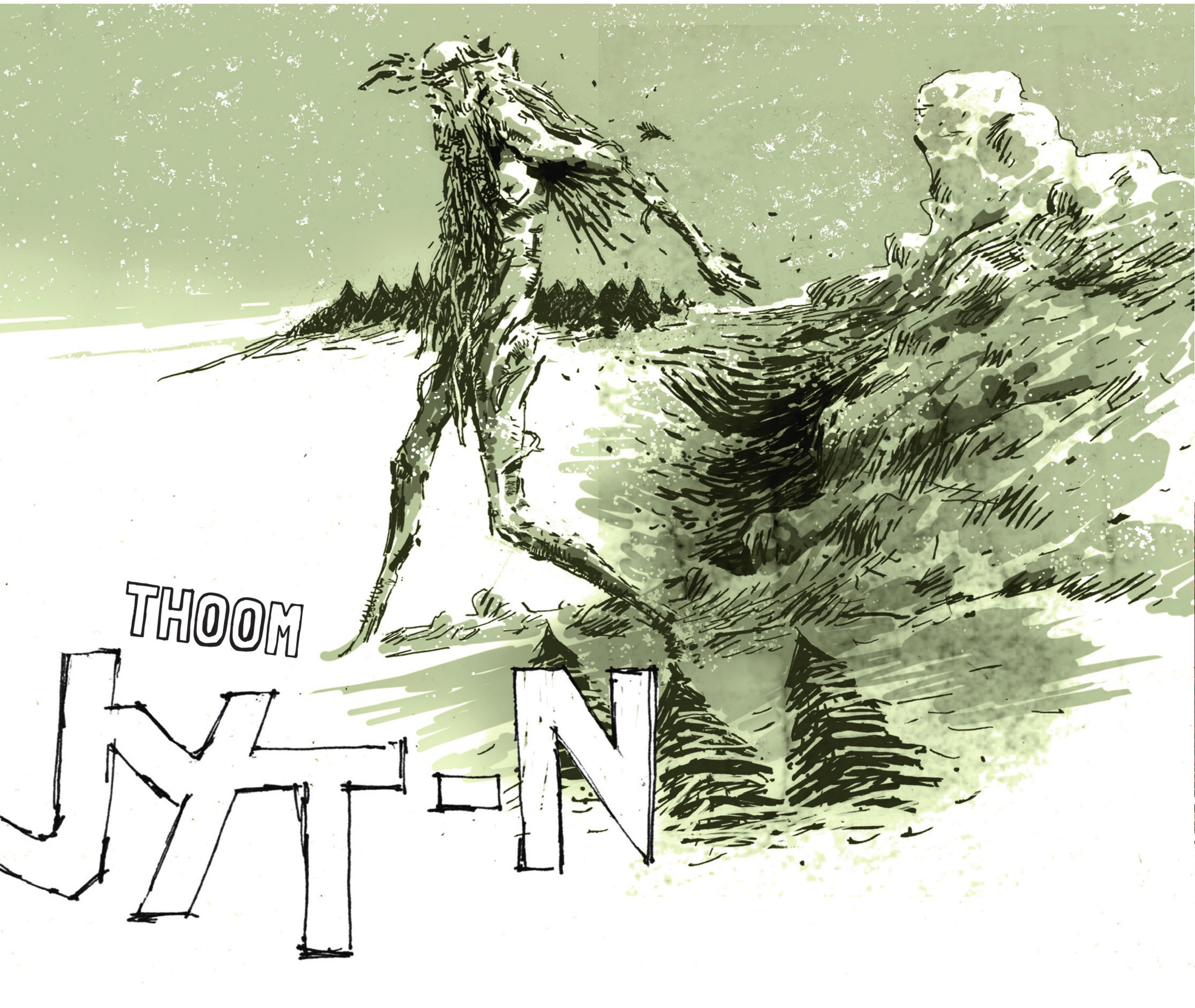
THOU CANST FIND OF WORDS A HUNDRED, FIND A THOUSAND WISDOM-SAYINGS, IN THE MOUTH OF WISE WIPUNEN, IN THE BODY OF THE HERO; TO THE SPOT I KNOW THE FOOT-PATH, TO HIS TOMB THE MAGIC HIGHWAY, TRODDEN BY A HOST OF HEROES; LONG THE DISTANCE THOU MUST TRAVEL...
KHOFF, KHOF, KHOF!
ON THE SHARPENED POINTS OF NEEDLES; THEN A LONG WAY THOU MUST JOURNEY ON THE EDGES OF THE BROADSWORDS; THIRDLY, THOU MUST TRAVEL FARTHER ON THE EDGES OF THE HATCHETS.

VIPUNEN HAS LONG BEEN DEAD. YOU WON'T GET ONE WORD THERE, OR EVEN HALF.

FORGE ME SHOES OF IRON, IRON GLOVES, A SHIRT OF METAL AND AN IRON STAFF WITH STEEL INSIDE.

RISE UP, SLAVE OF MAGIC, FROM LYING UNDERGROUND, IN EVERLASTING SLEEP!
THOOOMMAA
THOOOMMM
JY·TYM·N
THOOM
X
KRAK
KR
UUUUUOHHHRRR RRR


RAAAAHHR-
RHH!!
CCRUSSHH
PPHOOOOOOMMMM


THOOM
JYT-N

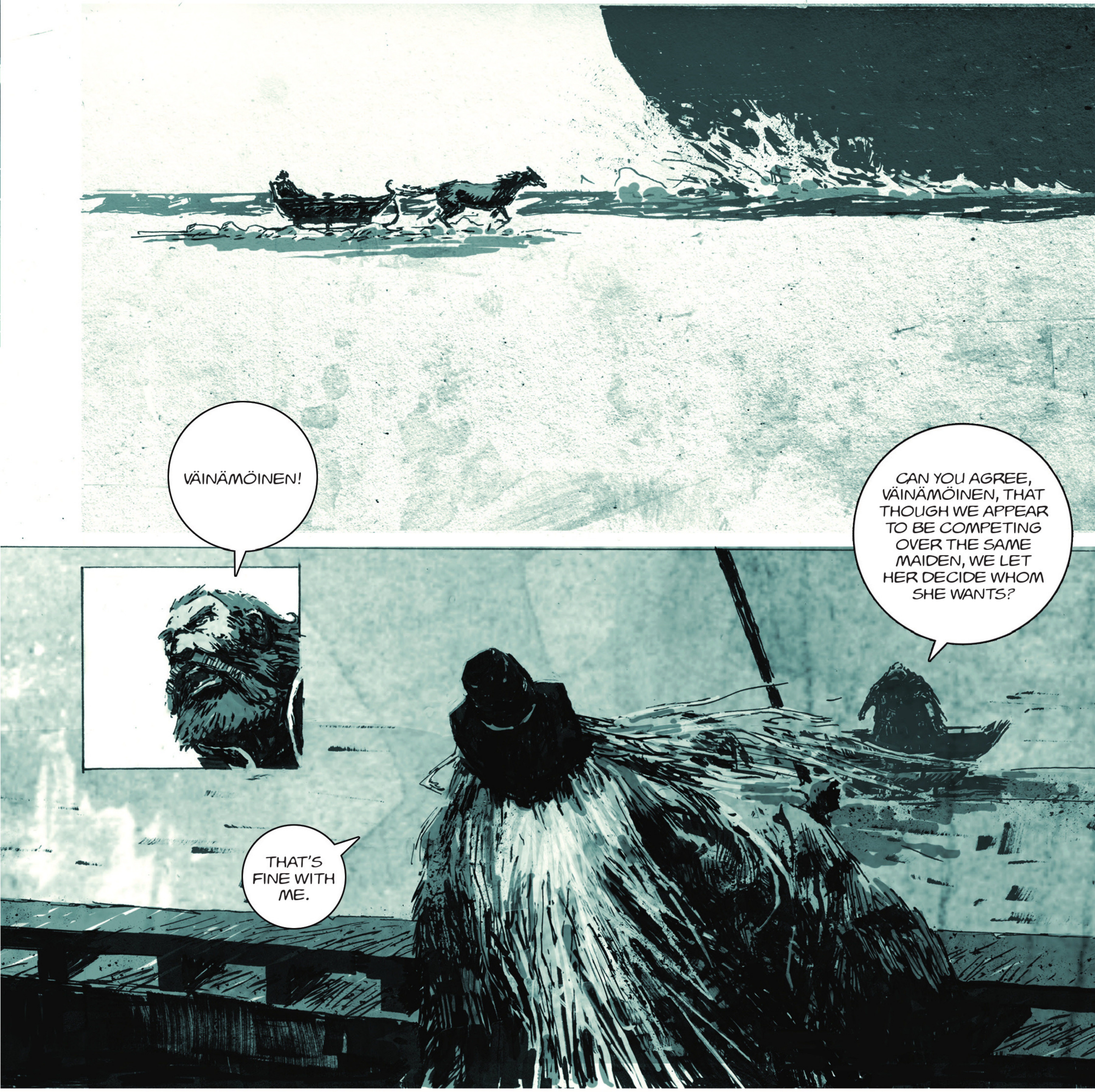
ALL KINDS OF THINGS HAVE I EATEN, DINED ON HEIFERS AND BOARS, BUT NEVER ANYTHING LIKE THIS.
NOTHING TASTING LIKE THIS BIT.

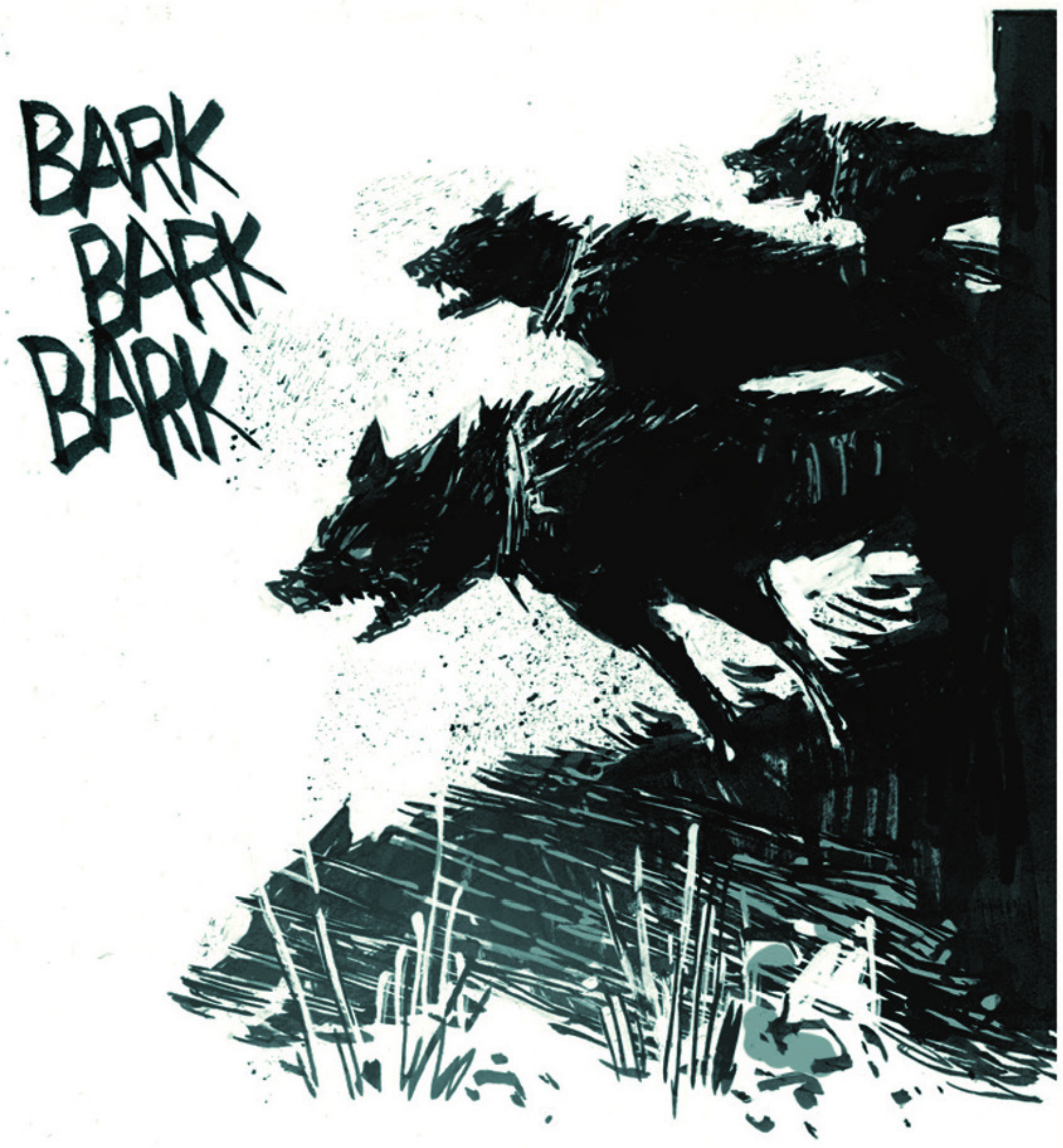
K-KROF KOF
WHAT KIND OF A HERO ARE YOU?! I HAVE EATEN A THOUSAND MEN, BUT SURELY NONE SUCH AS YOU! KHOFF! SMOKE IS PUSHING INTO MY MOUTH, EMBERS ONTO MY TONGUE.
OFF WITH YOU NOW, STRANGER, KHOFF! IF I AM NOT MAN ENOUGH, I WILL CALL ON SOMETHING STRONGER THAN ME TO DISPEL THIS PLAGUE.
I SHALL CALL THE WILL OF WOMAN, FROM THE FIELDS, THE OLD-TIME HEROES COME, THOU FOREST, WITH THY HEROES, COME, YE LAKES, WITH ALL YOUR MERMAIDS...
CHRUSSH
KRAK
RAK
THINGS ARE GOOD HERE! YOUR FAT WILL BE FINE ON BREAD! AND YOUR LUNGS WILL MAKE A GOOD SOUP!
YOU WILL NEVER BE FREE OF ME UNLESS I HEAR THOUSANDS OF YOUR INCANTATIONS. WORDS MUST NOT BE LOST IN SECRECY, NOR THE SAGES' MIGHT INTO A CRACK IN THE EARTH, EVEN THOUGH THEY MIGHT GO THERE THEMSELVES.

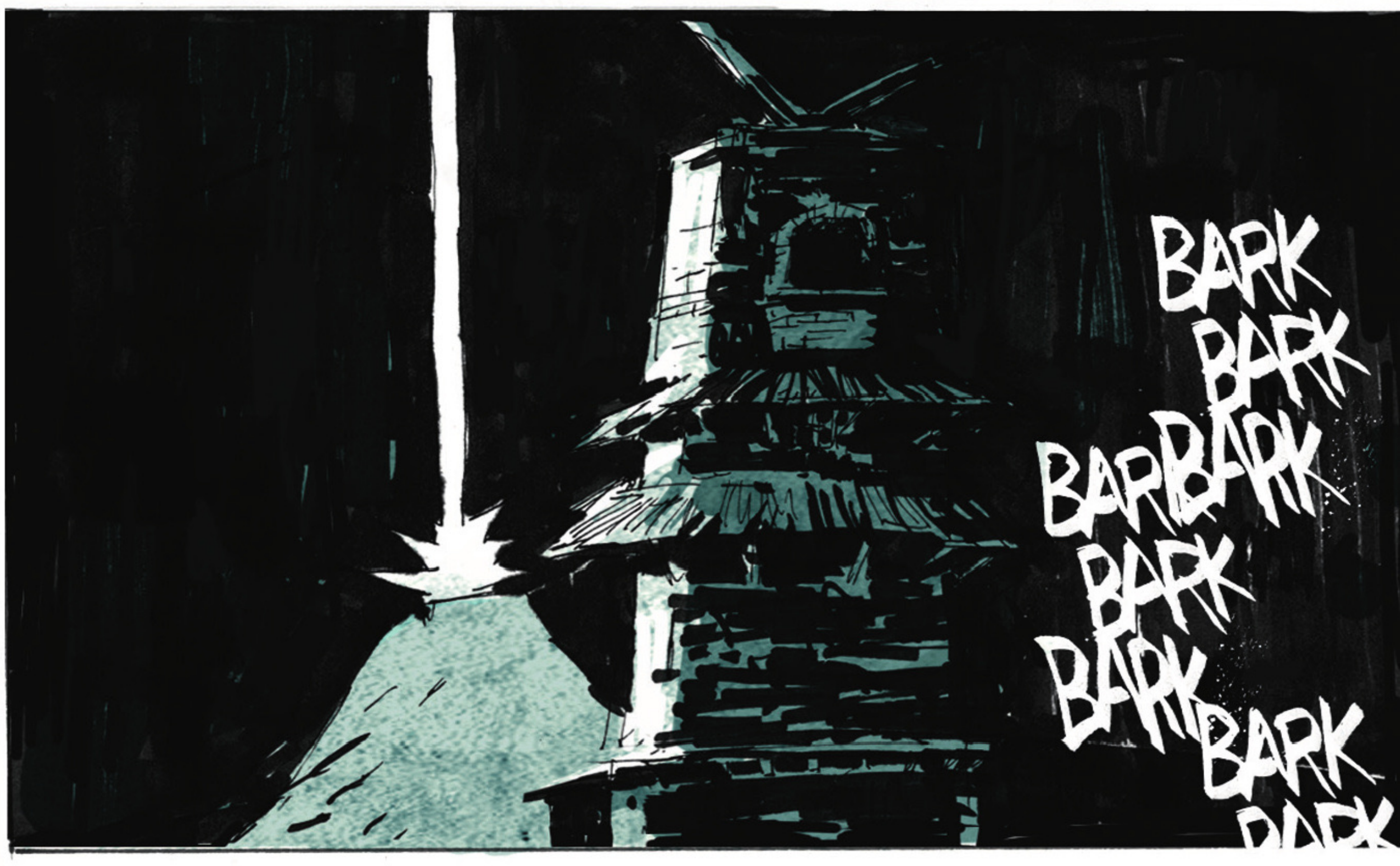
KROH

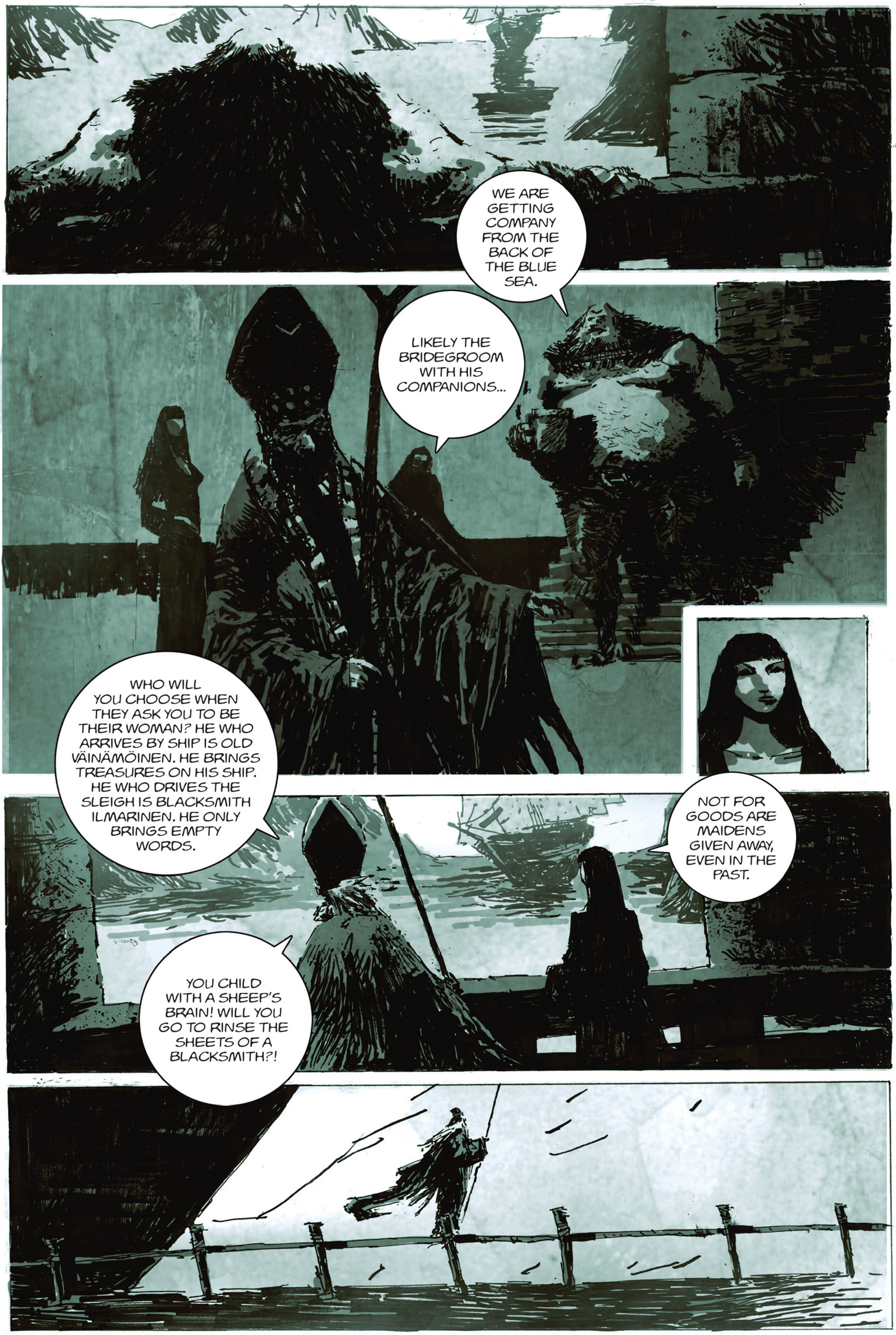
KLANG THOOOOOMMMM
UUUHHRRR...
DID YOU FIND ANY WORDS YET? POTENT SPELLS THAT WILL FASTEN THE SHIP'S GUNWALES, INSTALL THE STERN, AND PLACE THE BOWSPRIT?
YES, I GOT HUNDREDS OF WORDS, THOUSANDS OF SPELLS FROM THE MAGIC REALM.

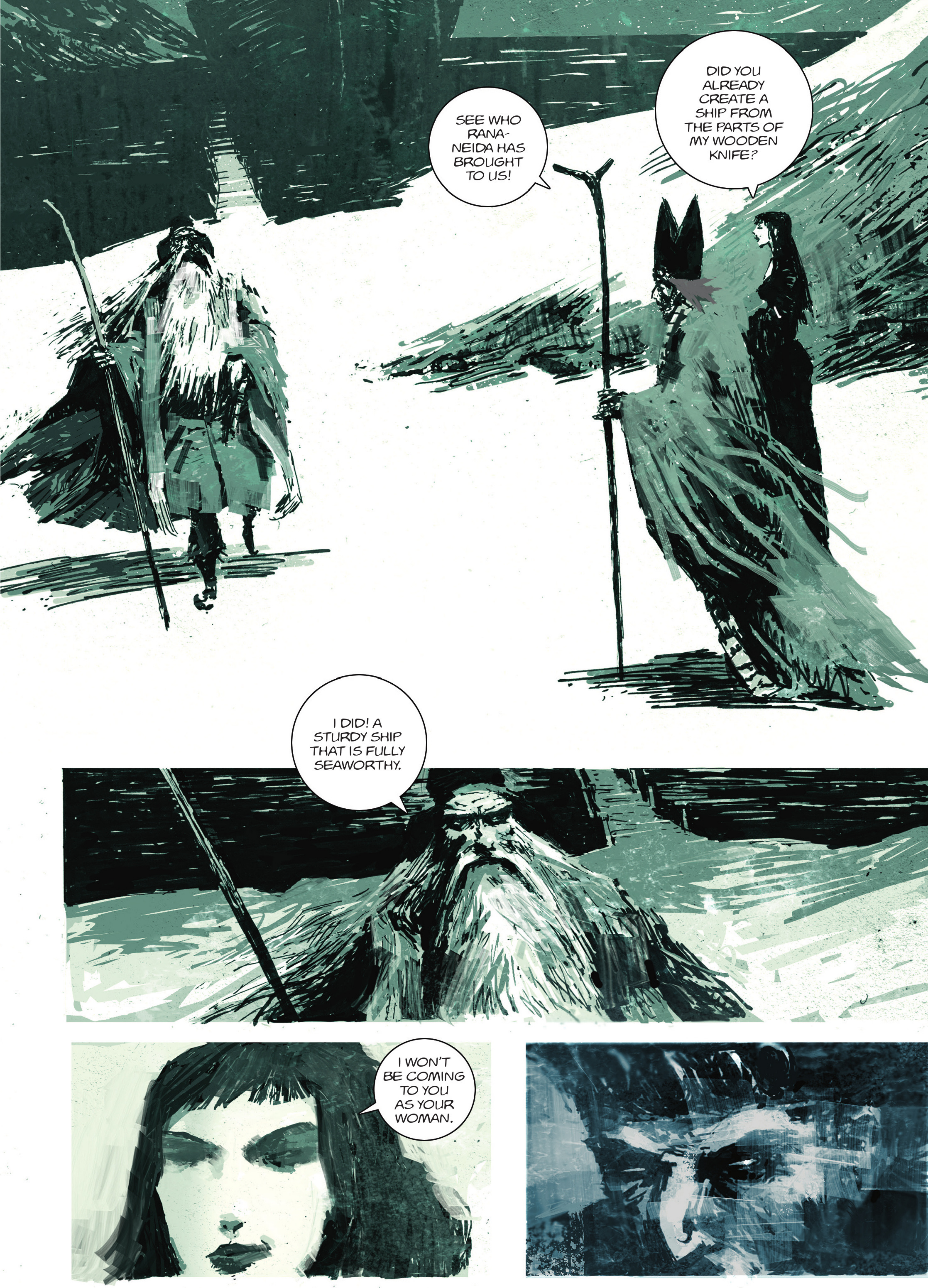
?!
WHAT IS IT, SISTER?
ARE YOU GOING TO BRING HER HOME, THE ONE YOU WERE BETROTHED TO LONG AGO? VÄINÄMÖINEN IS SAILING THE BLUE SEA TO DARK POHJOLA.
YOU ARE JUST TAPPING AWAY HERE, WHILE THOSE MORE CUNNING TAKE YOUR WOMAN.
KLONK
HEAT UP THE SAUNA.


VÄINÄMÖINEN!
CAN YOU AGREE, VÄINÄMÖINEN, THAT THOUGH WE APPEAR TO BE COMPETING OVER THE SAME MAIDEN, WE LET HER DECIDE WHOM SHE WANTS?
THAT'S FINE WITH ME.


BARK
BARK
BARK


BARK
BARK
BARBARK
BARK
BARK
BARK


WE ARE GETTING COMPANY FROM THE BACK OF THE BLUE SEA.
LIKELY THE BRIDEGROOM WITH HIS COMPANIONS...
WHO WILL YOU CHOOSE WHEN THEY ASK YOU TO BE THEIR WOMAN? HE WHO ARRIVES BY SHIP IS OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN. HE BRINGS TREASURES ON HIS SHIP. HE WHO DRIVES THE SLEIGH IS BLACKSMITH ILMARINEN. HE ONLY BRINGS EMPTY WORDS.
NOT FOR GOODS ARE MAIDENS GIVEN AWAY, EVEN IN THE PAST.
YOU CHILD WITH A SHEEP'S BRAIN! WILL YOU GO TO RINSE THE SHEETS OF A BLACKSMITH?!


SEE WHO RANA-NEIDA HAS BROUGHT TO US!
DID YOU ALREADY CREATE A SHIP FROM THE PARTS OF MY WOODEN KNIFE?
I DID! A STURDY SHIP THAT IS FULLY SEAWORTHY.
I WON'T BE COMING TO YOU AS YOUR WOMAN.

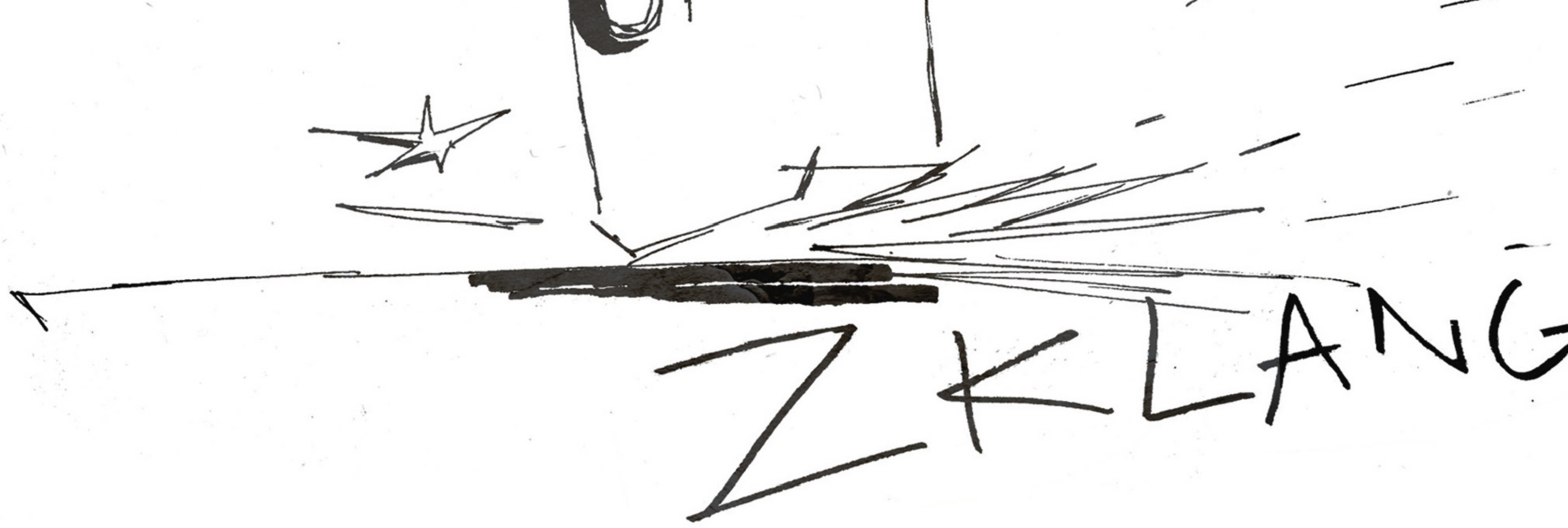
KLONK
I WON'T TOUCH A DROP UNLESS I CAN TAKE MY SWEETHEART WITH ME.
THE ONE YOU WANT HAS BETTER THINGS TO DO, BLACKSMITH.
THE GIRL IS READY ONCE YOU HAVE PLOWED THE FIELD OF VIPERS.
YOUR MOTHER WON'T GIVE YOU TO ME UNLESS I PLOW A FIELD... THAT IS FULL OF SNAKES.
HIISI TURNED IT IN THE PAST WITH A COPPER PLOW.
OTHERS HAVE LEFT IT UNFINISHED. MAKE A PLOW OUT OF GOLD AND USE THAT ON THE VIPER FIELD.

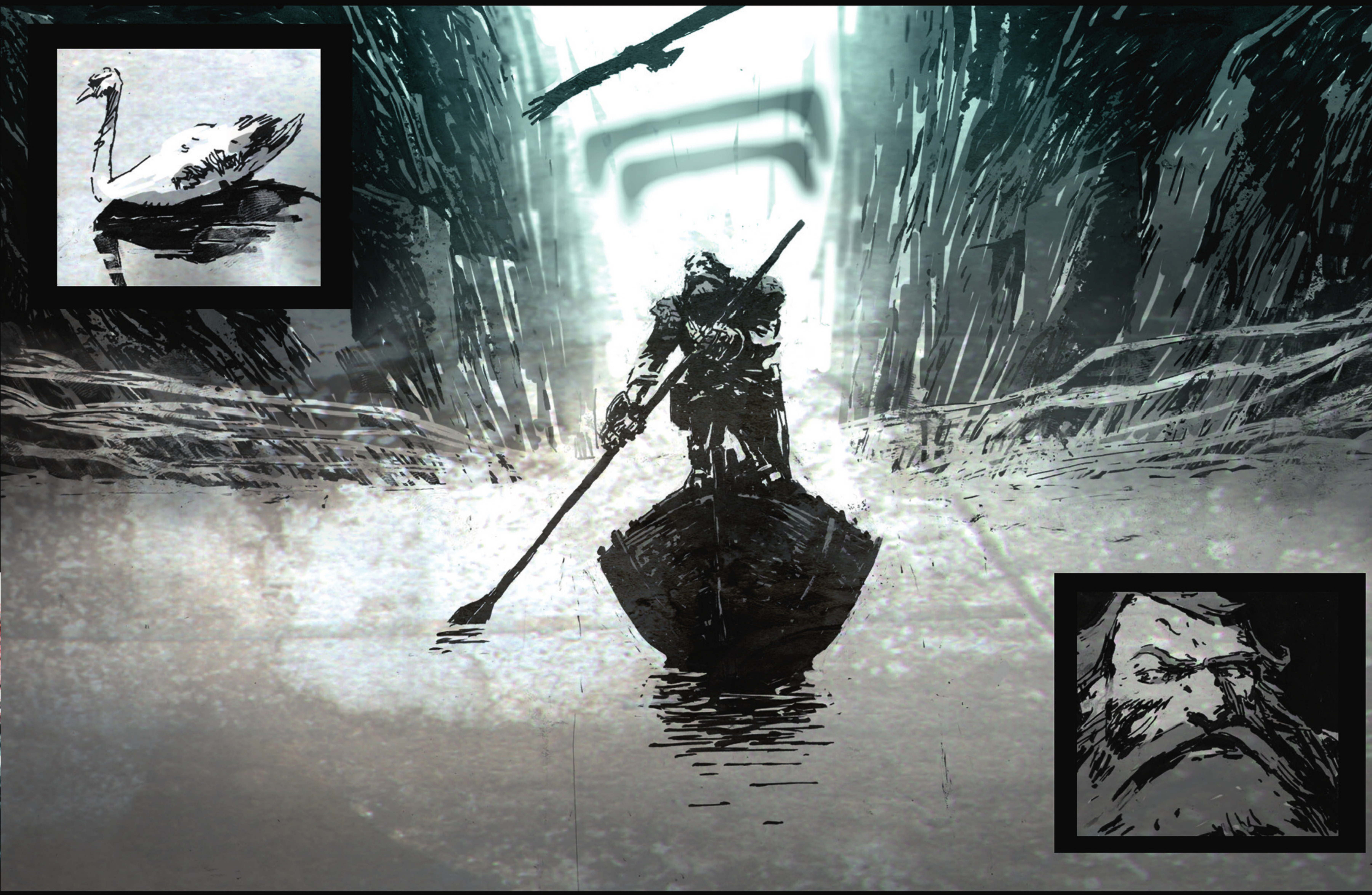
KLONK
KLONK
KLONK

CAN I HAVE THE MAIDEN NOW?
AFTER YOU BRING THE BEAR OF TUONELA AND BRIDLED THE WOLF OF MANALA. A HUNDRED MEN HAVE TRIED THIS, BUT NOT ONE HAS RETURNED.
KLANG!
KLANG!
KLANG!
KLANG!
MAKE THE BRIDLE OUT OF STEEL AND THE HALTER OUT OF IRON.
MAIDEN OF THE MIST, TERHENETÄR, SIFT SOME FOG, SETTLE IT ONTO THE PATH OF MY PREY SO THAT IT WILL NOT SEE ME COMING AND FLEE!

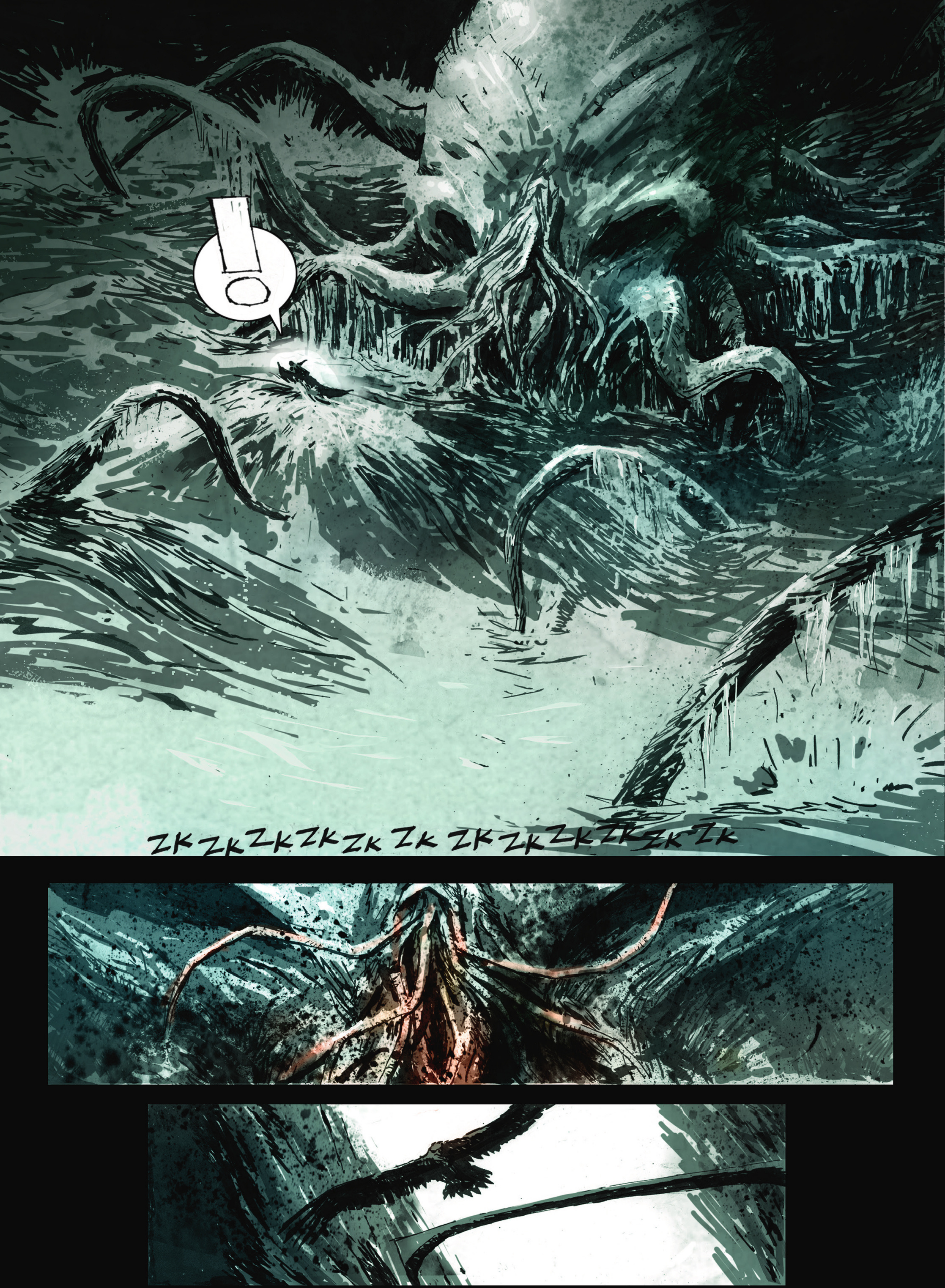
RRAAAAA
KRAK
HHRROUR
SSSSSSSSHHHHHHHH

GROWL
AGAIN I WAS GIVEN A NEW TASK. I MUST CATCH THE MASSIVE PIKE FROM THE EVER-FLOWING BLACK RIVER OF TUONELA. WITH NO TACKLE.
FORGE A MIGHTY EAGLE. WITH THAT YOU CAN CATCH THE HUGE PIKE FROM THE WATERS OF MANALA.


ZKLANG



ZZWooooMM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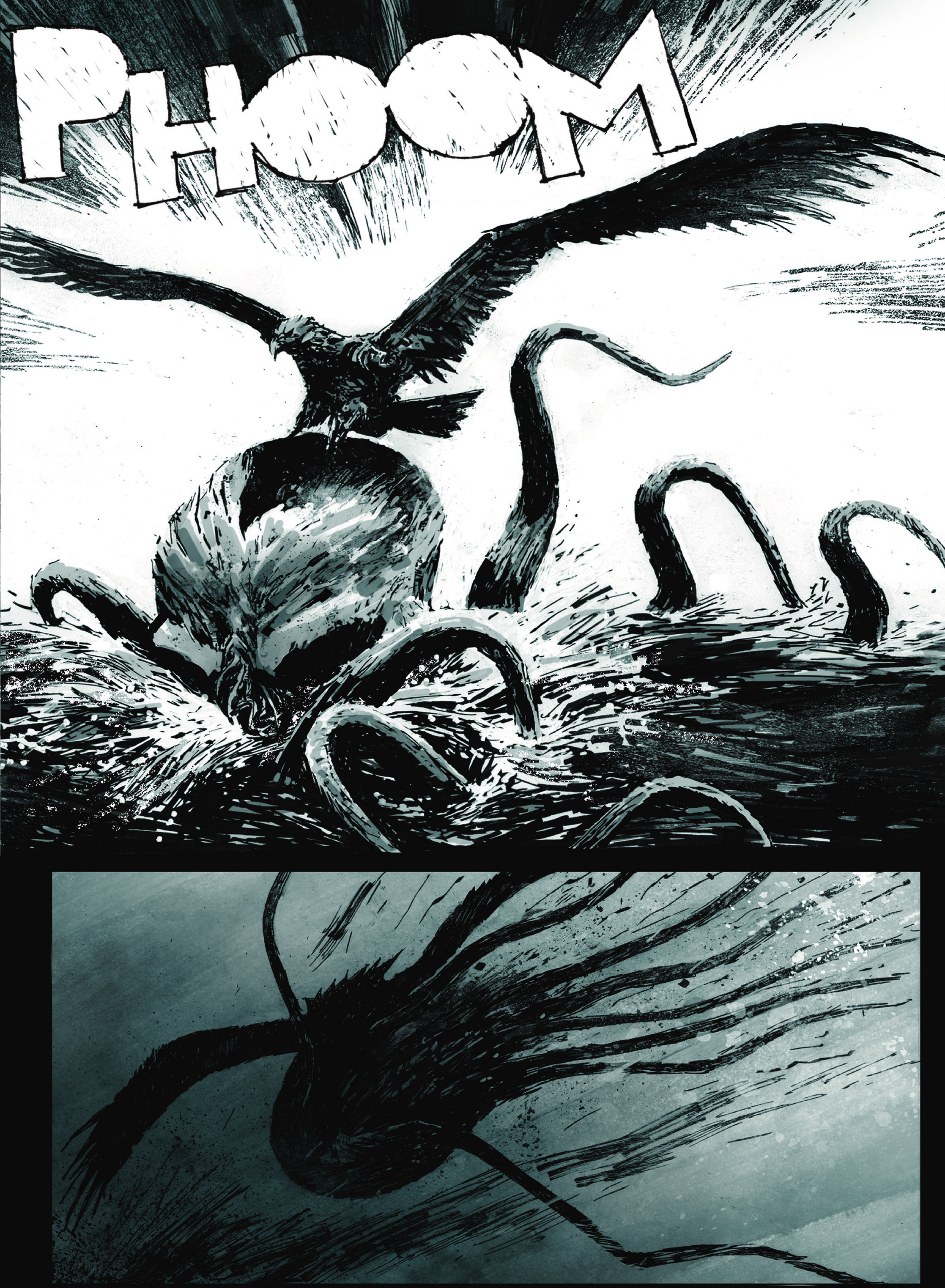
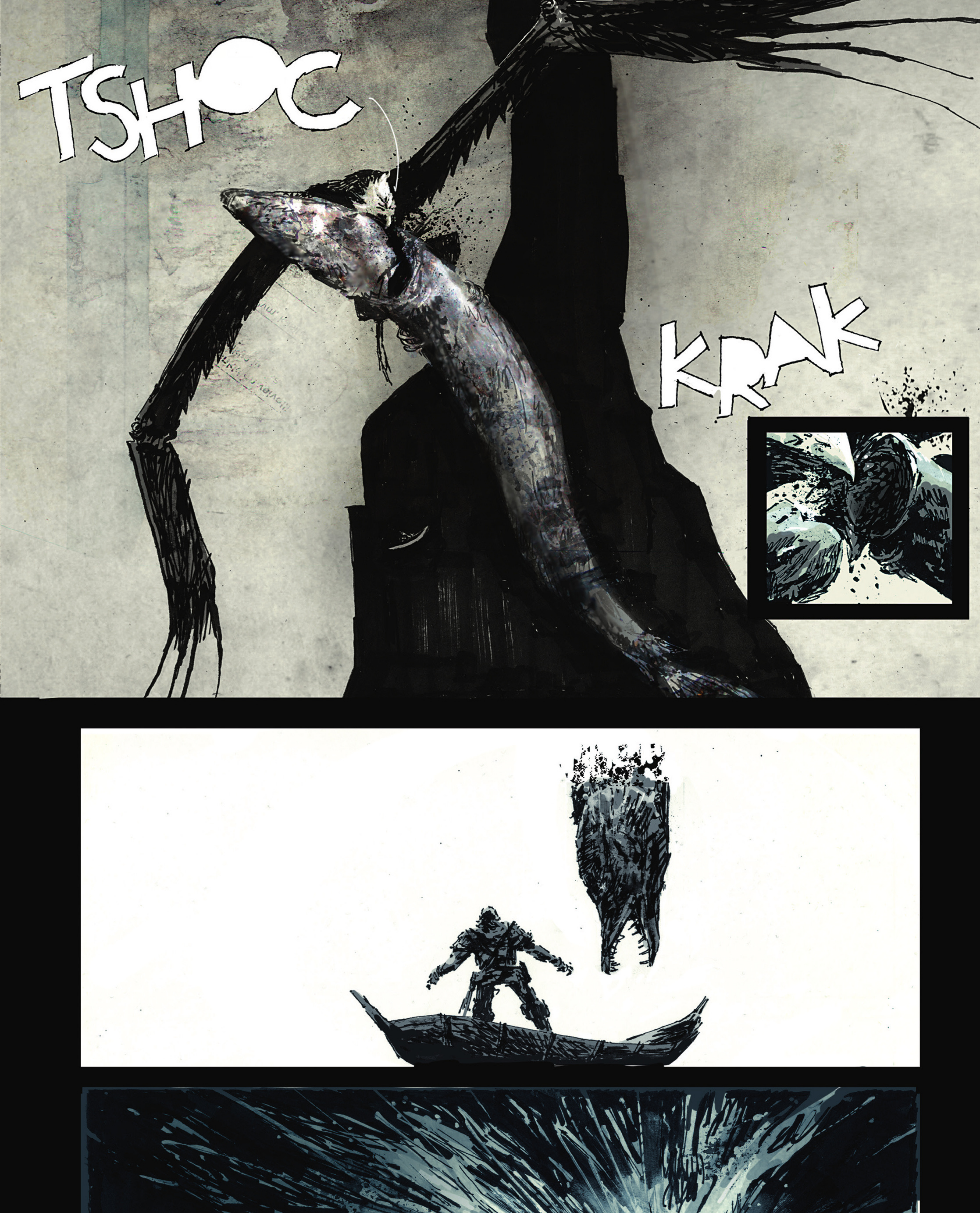
ZK ZK ZK ZK ZK ZK ZK ZK ZK ZK ZK ZK


PHOOM

ZOOOM
!

SSKRACCH

TSHOC
TSHOC


TSHOC
KRAK

THIS WILL MAKE A NICE SEAT FOR YOU IN THE POHJOLA DWELLING FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.
KIASE-OLMAI HAS BEEN VERY GENEROUS WITH YOU.
BUT YOU DID A BAD DEED IN HACKING OFF THE HEAD OF THE FISH.
CATCHES ARE NEVER FLAWLESS, EVEN FROM THE BETTER SPOTS, LET ALONE THE RIVER OF TUONELA.

WHERE MIGHT THE SMOKE BE COMING FROM, GENTLE LEMMINKÄINEN?
THOSE ARE FIRES OF WAR, PYRES OF PREY.
TURISAS IS BEATING THE DRUM IN THE SKY!
THESE FIRES ARE NOT FROM WAR. THAT IS MY DEAR MOTHER-IN-LAW, THE MISTRESS OF POHJOLA, BREWING EXCELLENT ALE FOR A LARGE CROWD.
AND ESPECIALLY FOR LEMMINKÄINEN, WHO WILL SOON CELEBRATE NUPTIALS WITH YOUR YOUNG DAUGHTER...

GATHER THE PEOPLE. INVITE EVERYONE IN POHJOLA AND ALL THE KALEVA KIN.
INVITE OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN TO BE THE WEDDING SINGER, AS IS NORMAL, BUT DO NOT INVITE KAUKOMIELI, THE WILD LEMMINKÄINEN.
LEMMINKÄINEN IS ALWAYS FIGHTING, AND HAS BEHAVED SHAMEFULLY AT PARTIES, SEDUCED MAIDENS...
AS YOU WISH.

MBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE
IS THE GROUP WEDDING-BOUND ALREADY...?
MBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE

DEAR MOTHER, QUICKLY MAKE SOME FOOD FOR A HUNGRY MAN!
WHERE ARE YOU OFF TO IN SUCH A HURRY?
I AM OFF TO A WEDDING IN POHJOLA, A SECRET DRINKING PARTY. GET ME MY BEST CLOTHES TO FLAUNT AT THE PARTY!
OH, MY SON, DON'T GO TO THE PARTY IN POHJOLA. YOU ARE NEITHER INVITED NOR WANTED THERE.
THE WORTHLESS MOVE BY INVITATION, THE MIGHTY COME WITHOUT.
THUN
THIS ONE ALWAYS INVITES ME, ASKS ME TO GO, MY BRAND-NEW SWORD, MY BRILLIANT BLADE.
DO NOT GO TO THE PARTY AT POHJOLA! THERE ARE MANY HORRORS ON THE WAY, THREE OF THE WORST DEADLY TRAPS.
A MAN DOESN'T HEED THEM, NOR EVEN PREPARE.
AND ONCE THERE, NOR WILL THE WITCHES' SPELLS AFFECT ME. MYSELF, I WILL CHARM THEM, SUBDUE THE TURJANS: IT IS NOT MY FIRST TIME IN THE HAMLETS OF POHJOLA.
I WILL SING THEIR SHOULDERS IN HALF, SPLIT THEIR JAWS WIDE OPEN AND BREAK THEIR BREASTBONES.

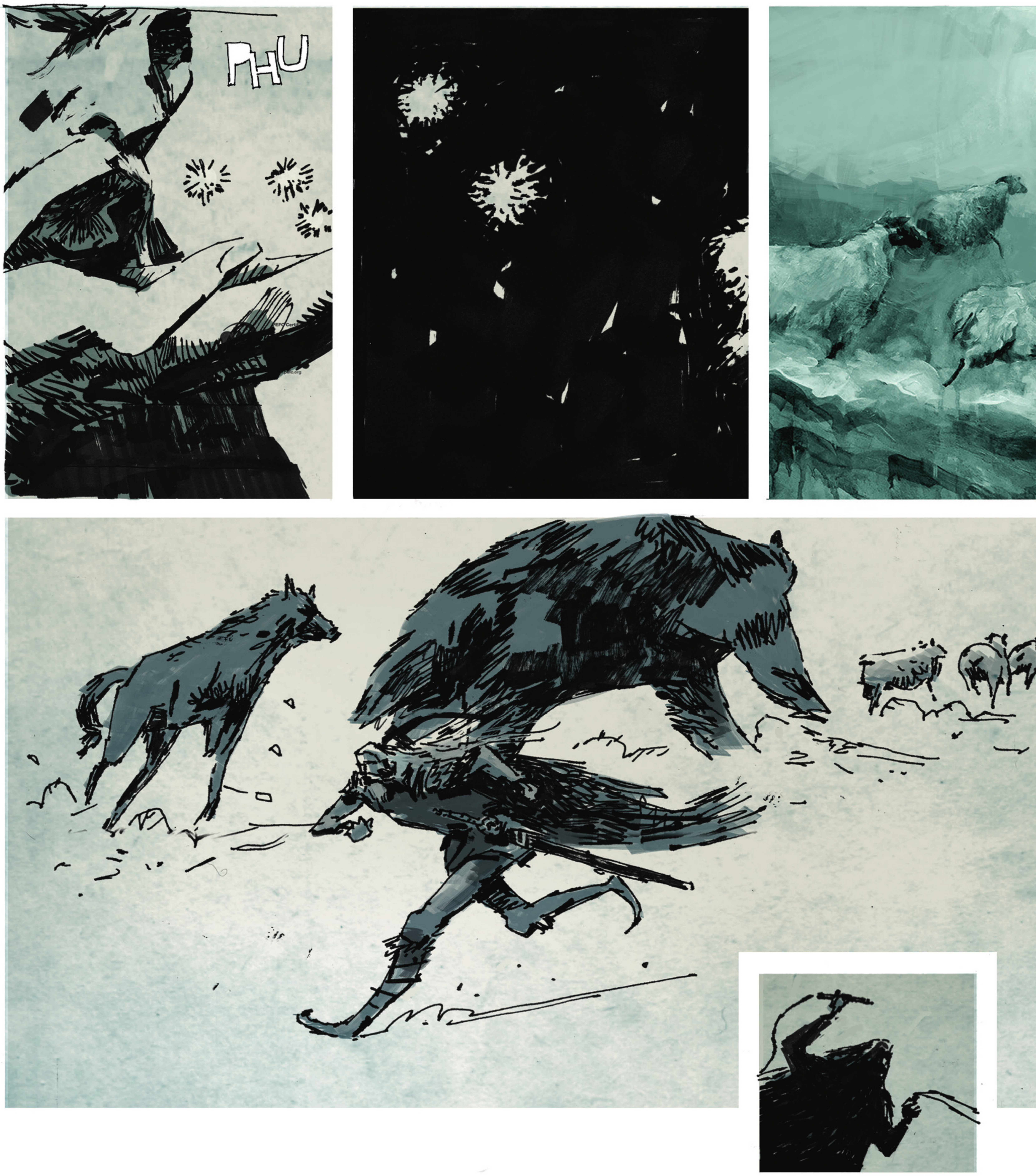
OH, MY WRETCHED SON, YOU ARE STILL REMEMBERING THE PAST AND BOASTING ABOUT YOUR LAST VISIT!
YOU HAVE INDEED SPENT TIME IN THE DWELLINGS OF POHJOLA. SWIMMING IN THE WHIRLPOOLS AND RATTLING DOWN THE TUONELA RAPIDS.
IF IT WERE NOT FOR YOUR MOTHER, YOU WOULD BE THERE STILL!
AND CONSIDER THIS: WHEN YOU COME TO THE HOMESTEAD OF POHJOLA, THE HILL IS FULL OF STAKES, AND THE GARDEN FULL OF POLES.
THEY ARE TOPPED WITH THE HEADS OF MEN. ONLY ONE IS MISSING. YOUR HEAD WILL BE CUT OFF FOR THAT ONE!
ONLY A FOOL WOULD PAY HEED TO THAT! NOT A HERO. BRING ME MY BATTLE GEAR.
SLAM
I WILL GET MY FATHER'S CROSSBOW AND INSPECT ITS CONDITION. IT HAS LONG BEEN IN THE COLD AND DARK, WEEPING AND YEARNING FOR ITS BEARER.

UKKO, THOU O GOD ABOVE ME, FROM THE NORTH-WEST SEND A STORM-CLOUD FROM THE EAST, DISPATCH A SECOND!!
SEW THEIR EDGES WELL TOGETHER, FILL THOU WELL THE INTERSPACES!!

KRA-KOOOM
HORAN GALLES!!
SEND A SNOW-FALL HIGH AS HEAVEN, FALL UPON THE FLAMING FIRE-PIT!!
A BRIDGE OF ICE ACROSS THE SNOWBOUND POND FROM BANK TO BANK!!!
SSSSSSSSSSSHHHHHHHHHHH

SSSSSHHHH
!

HROO
UUURR
HHROO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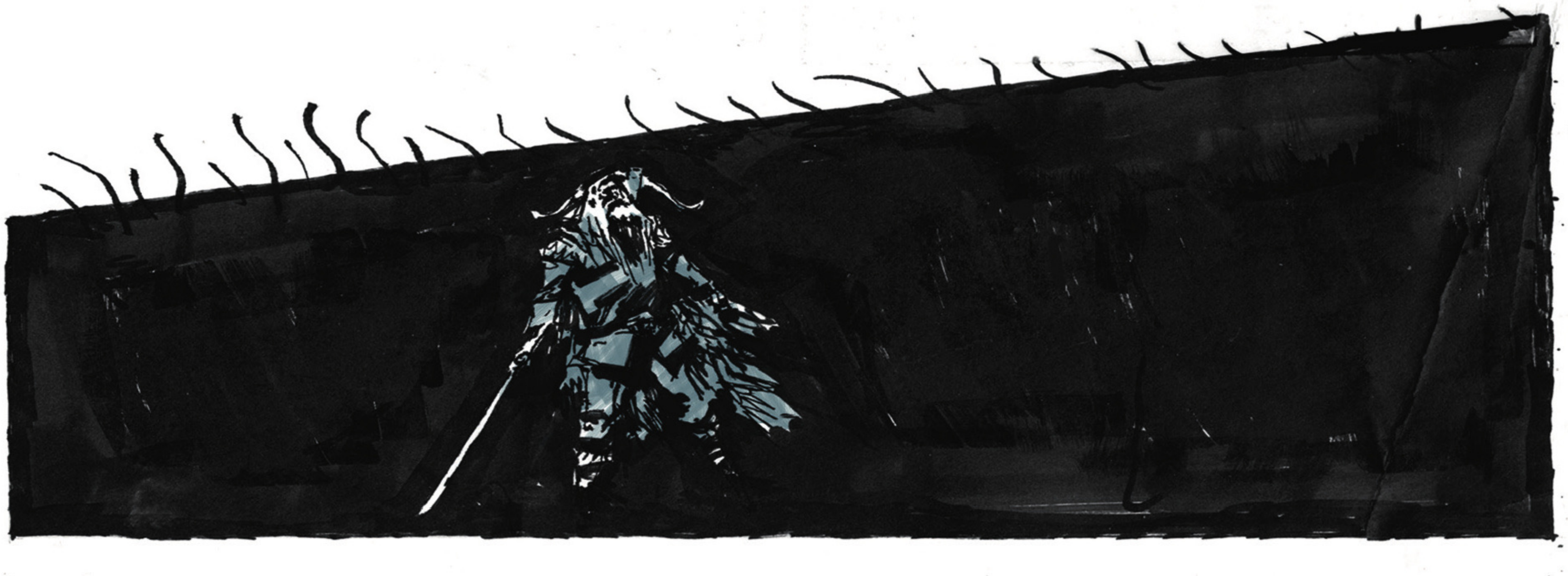
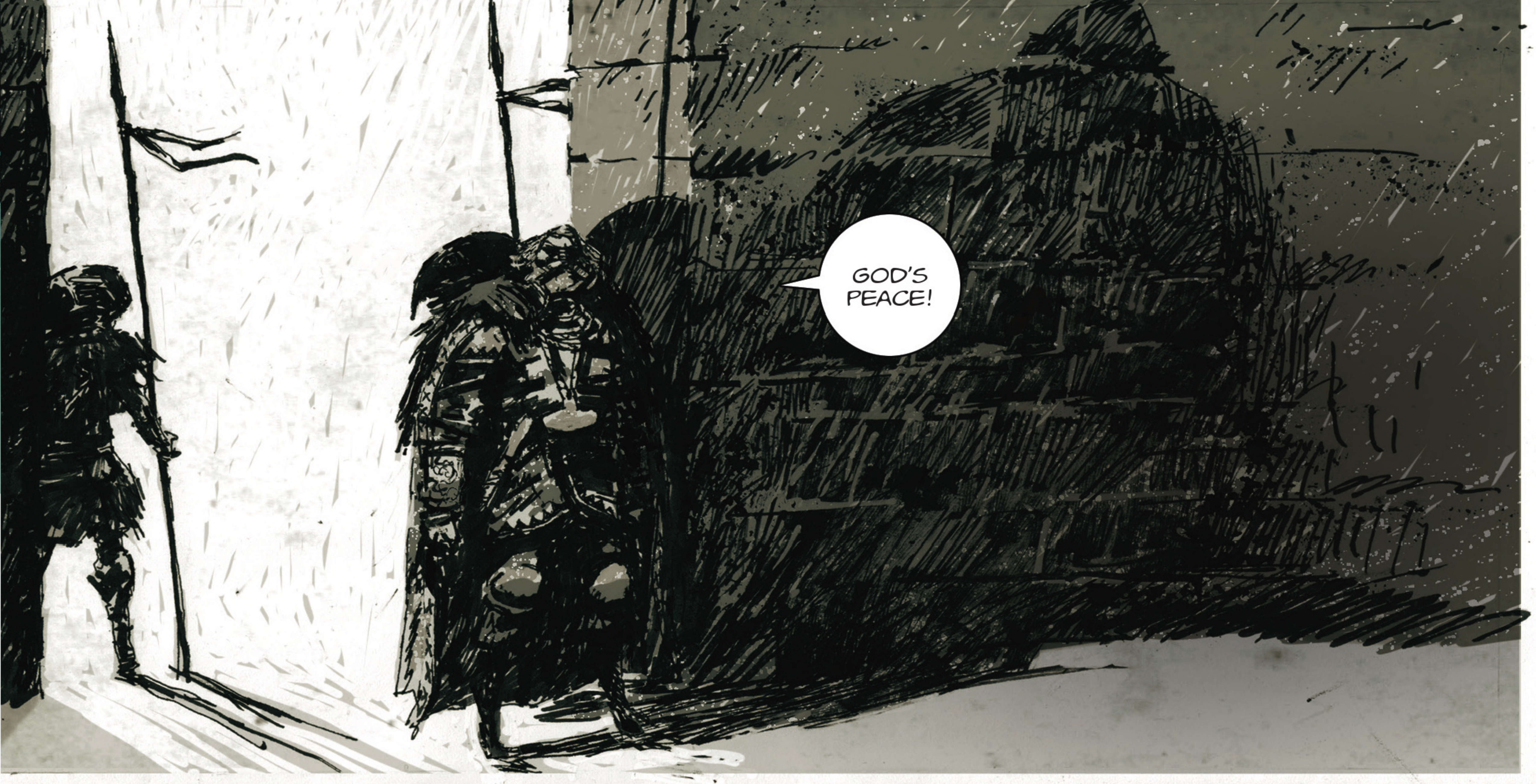
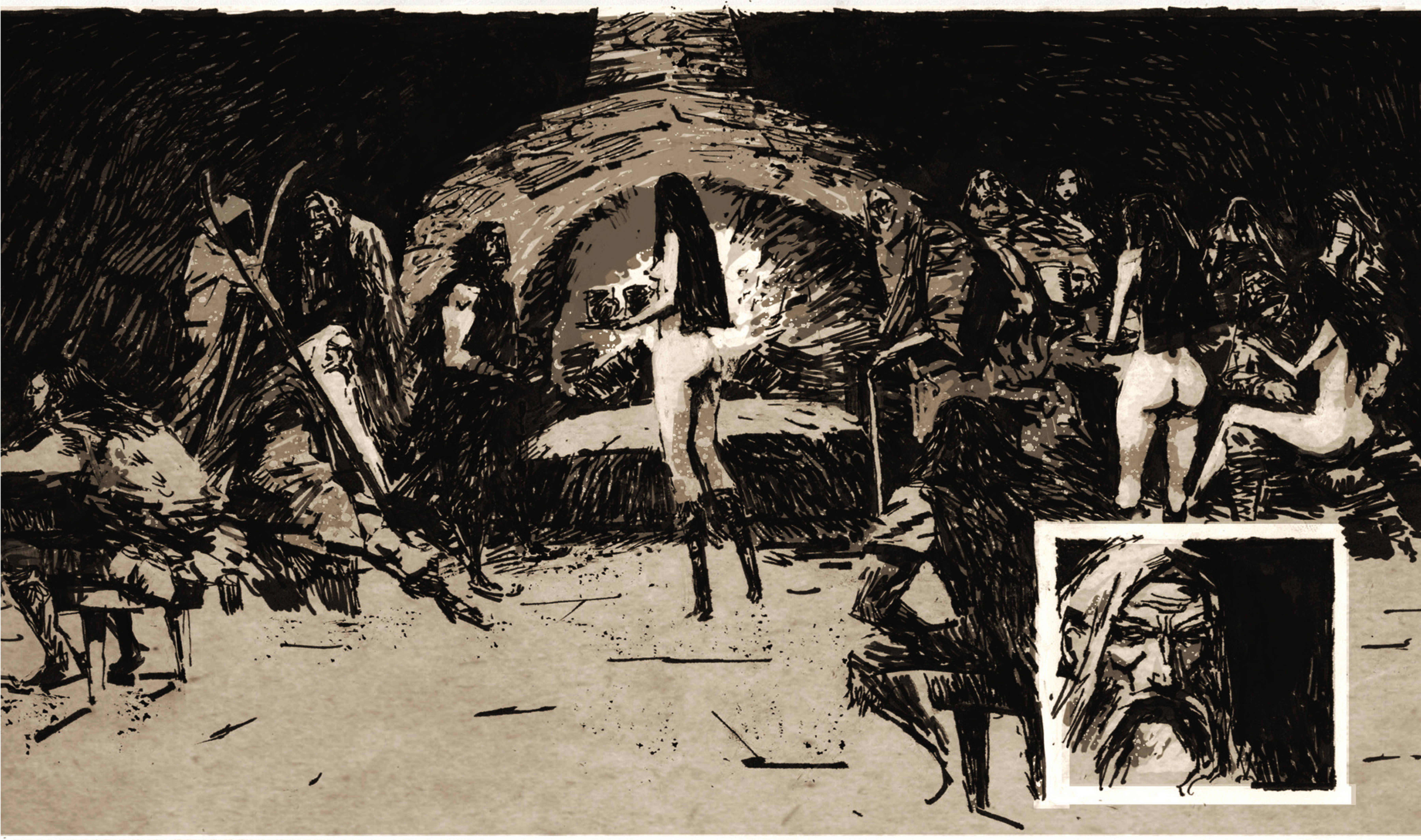
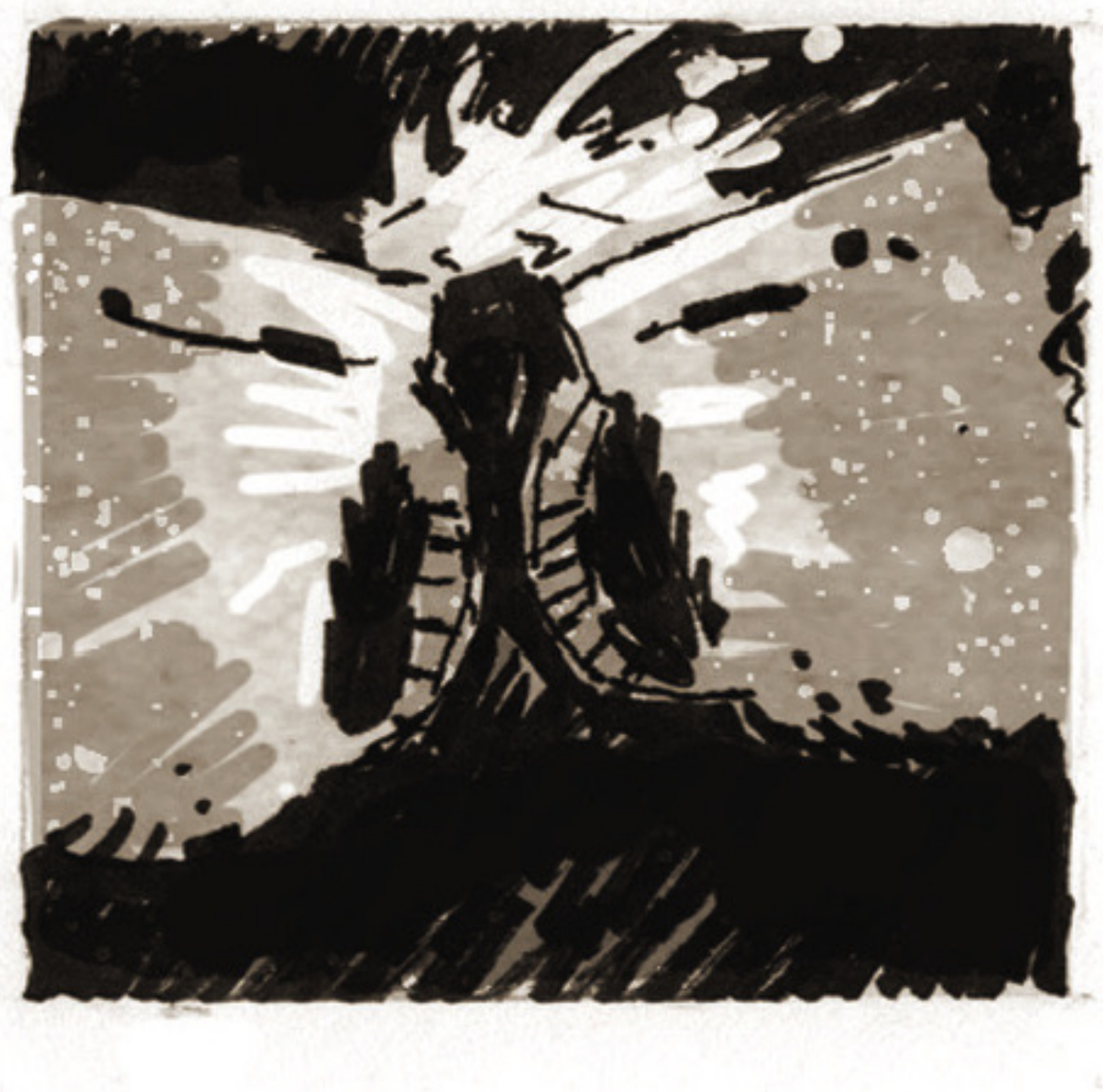


IT LOOKS LIKE THE GROOM'S WEDDING PARTY HAS ARRIVED.
RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE
WAIT, I'LL SEE IF THE SON-IN-LAW FITS THROUGH THE DOOR WITHOUT HAVING TO REMOVE IT AND TAKE OFF THE DOOR FRAMES!


GOD'S PEACE!





SSSSSSSZZSSSZZZZZSSSSZZSSSSZZZZZZZZS
THE MOTHER-IN-LAW HAS PUT UP AN IRON FENCE ON LEMMINKÄINEN'S PATH...AND FILLED IT WITH SNAKES!!
RAAAA!
MRROU

DEAR GUESTS! WELCOME TO THE POHJOLA WEDDING CELEBRATION, A SARIOLA DRINKING PARTY!!
BONGA BONGA GONG
BONGA GONG!

BONGA GONGA
BONGA GONGA
BONGA GONGA

BONGA GONGA BONGA GONGA BONGA GONGA

YOU BLACK WORM OF TUONELA! I CAN GUESS WHO LIFTED YOU FROM THE DIRT TO SLITHER ABOVE GROUND...
PFFS
VENOMED VIPER, THING OF EVIL, ANCIENT ADDER OF TUONI!!
CLOSE THY MOUTH, THOU THING OF EVIL...

RRO
PFFSSSH
SINCE THOU WILT NOT HEED MINE ORDER, SINCE THOU WILT NOT LEAVE THE HIGHWAY!!!
PUFFED WITH PRIDE OF THINE OWN GREATNESS!!!!
THOU SHALL BURST IN TRIPLE PIECES.

FTT
FTT
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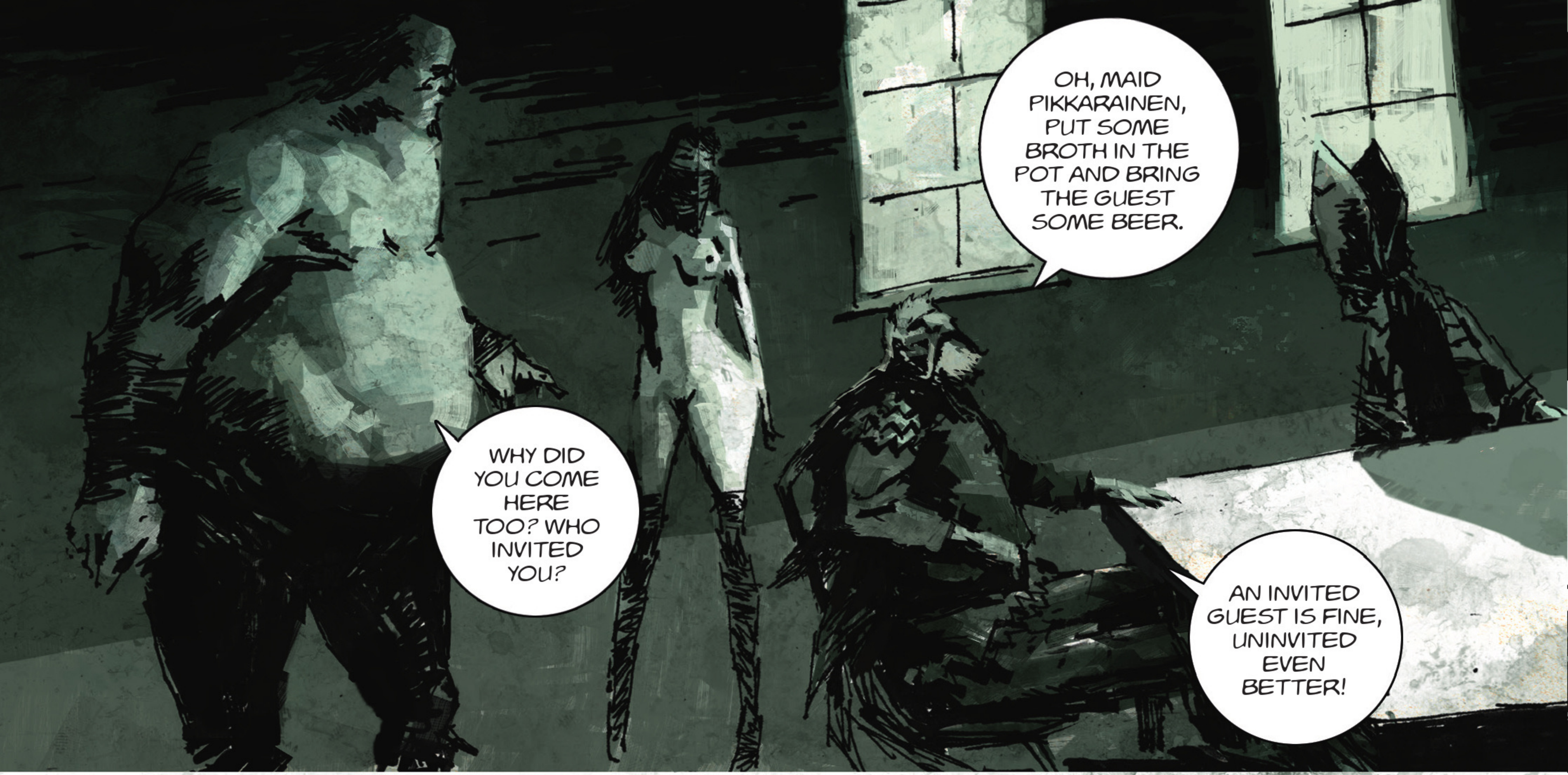
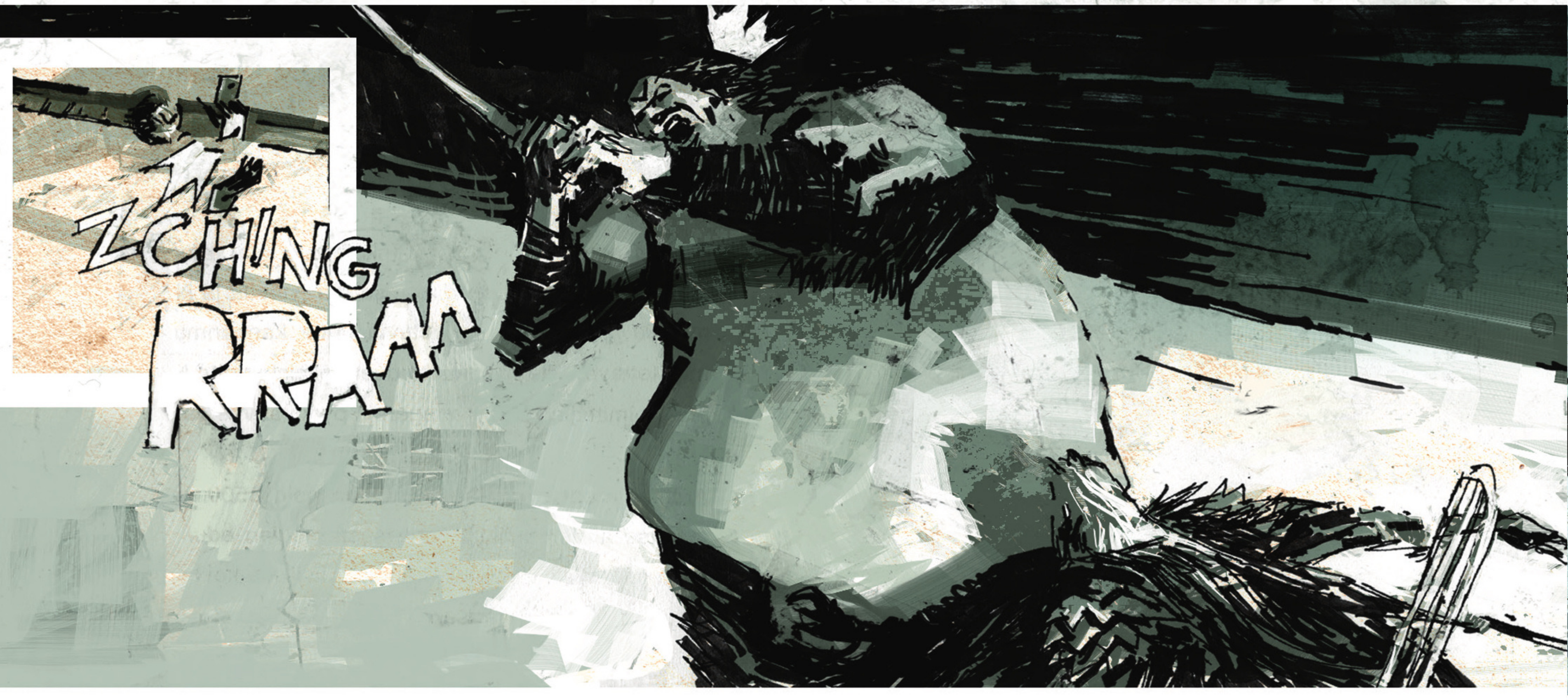
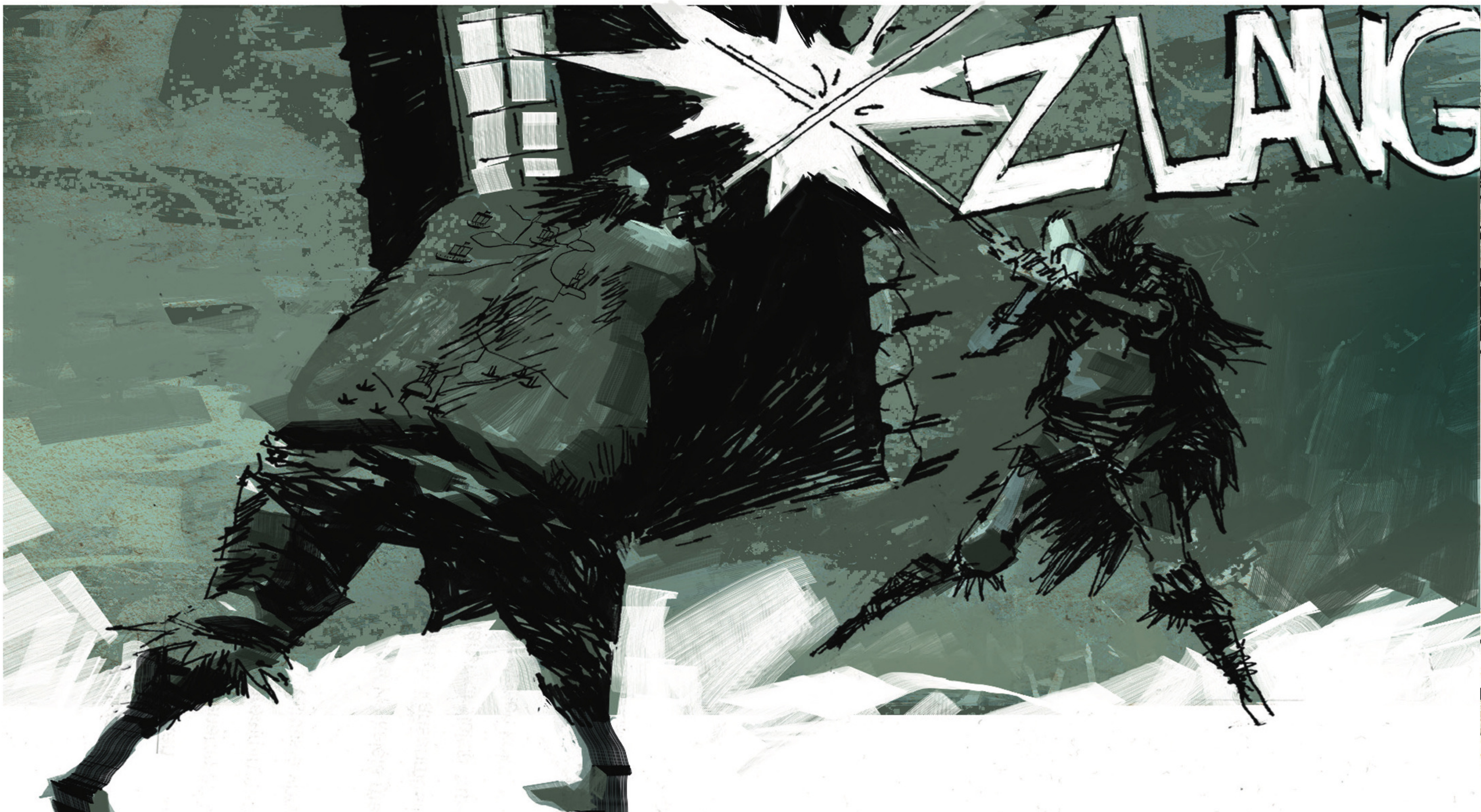
WELCOME ME TO THE HOUSE! GOOD HEALTH TO ME!
LISTEN, LOAUS, WOULD THERE BE BARLEY IN THE HOUSE FOR THE STALLION TO CHEW, AND BEER FOR THE HERO TO DRINK?

WE MIGHT HAVE SOME PASTURE FOR YOUR STALLION...
AND IF YOU BEHAVE YOURSELF, YOU CAN STAND BY THE DOOR NEAR THE COOKPOTS.
LET THE DEVIL COME TO STAND AT YOUR DOOR AND WASH YOUR POTS!
NOT EVEN A WELCOME MUG OF BEER.
I SEEM NOT TO BE THE FAVORITE GUEST...
WE HAVE ALREADY EATEN, TOASTED THE WEDDING, ENDED THE PARTY.
OH, THOU TOOTHLESS DAME OF PIMENTOLA, BADLY MANAGED WAS YOUR WEDDING. INVITATIONS WENT ALL OVER, EVERY DOG INVITED, BUT I ALONE WAS NOT.
WHY DID YOU DO THIS TO ME, EVEN THOUGH I DID WHAT YOU ASKED OF ME?

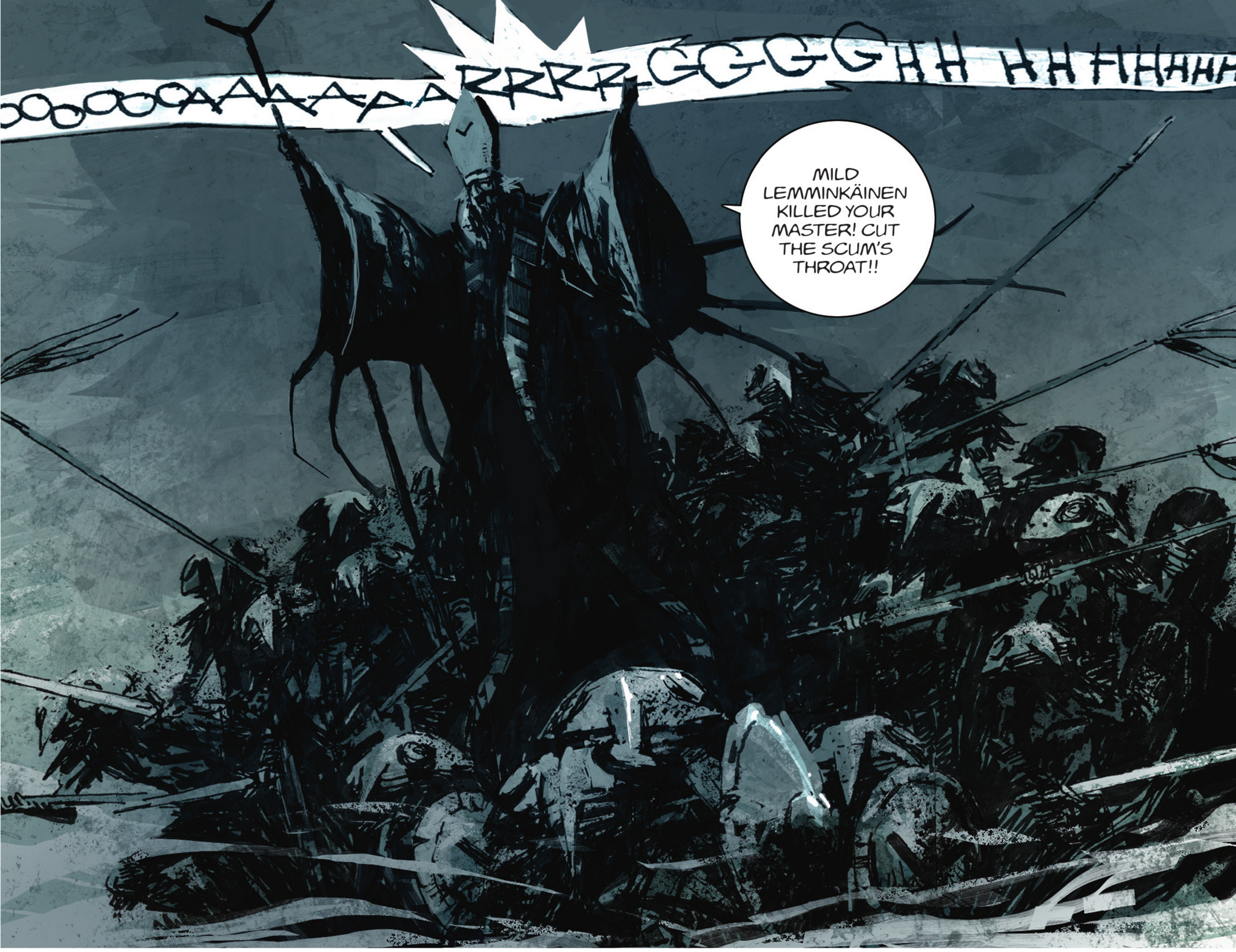

OH, MAID PIKKARAINEN, PUT SOME BROTH IN THE POT AND BRING THE GUEST SOME BEER.
WHY DID YOU COME HERE TOO? WHO INVITED YOU?
AN INVITED GUEST IS FINE, UNINVITED EVEN BETTER!

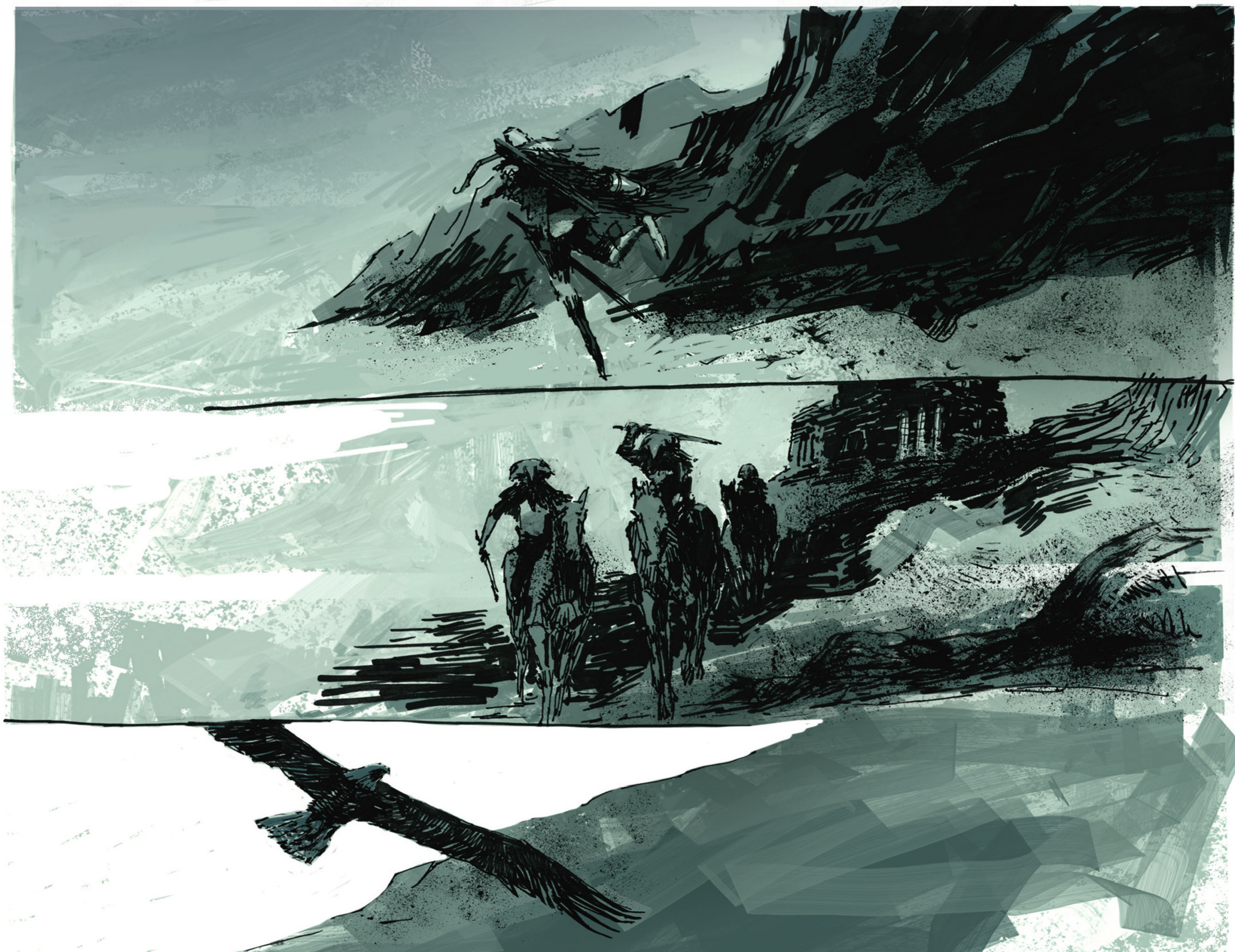

ZCHING
RRAAA


ZLANG

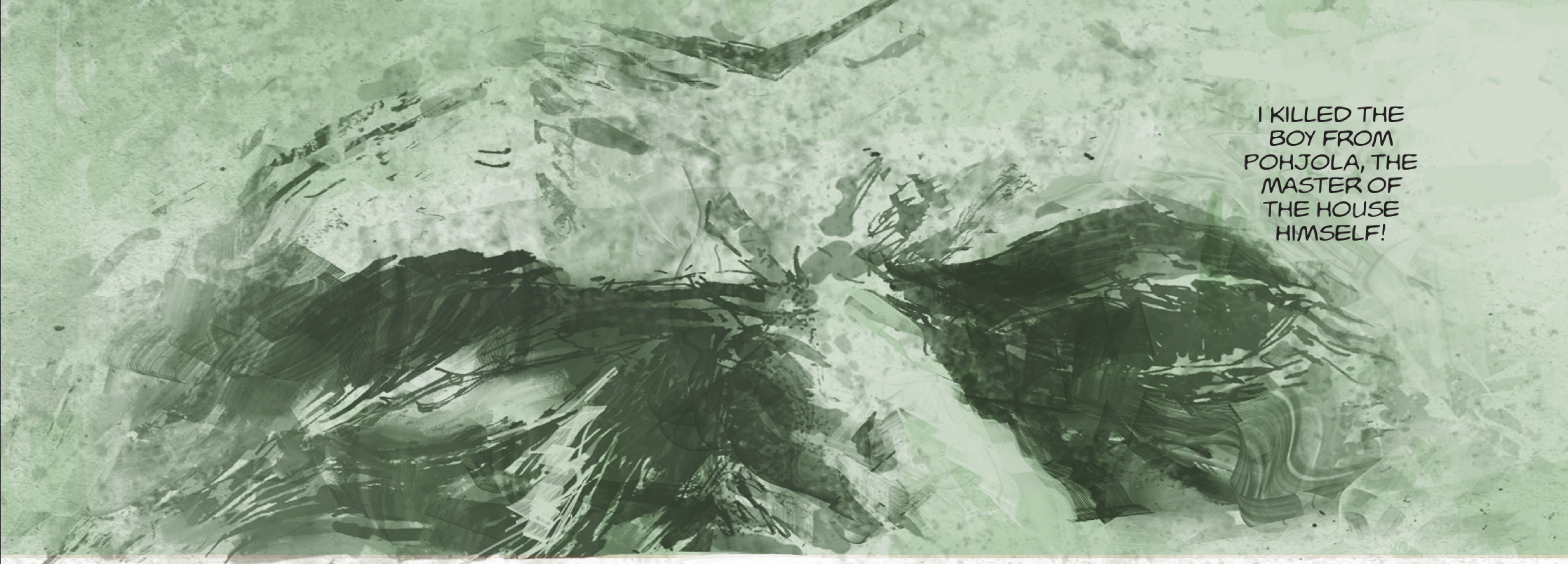
ZPLANK
KLANG-Z
ZZZLAANG

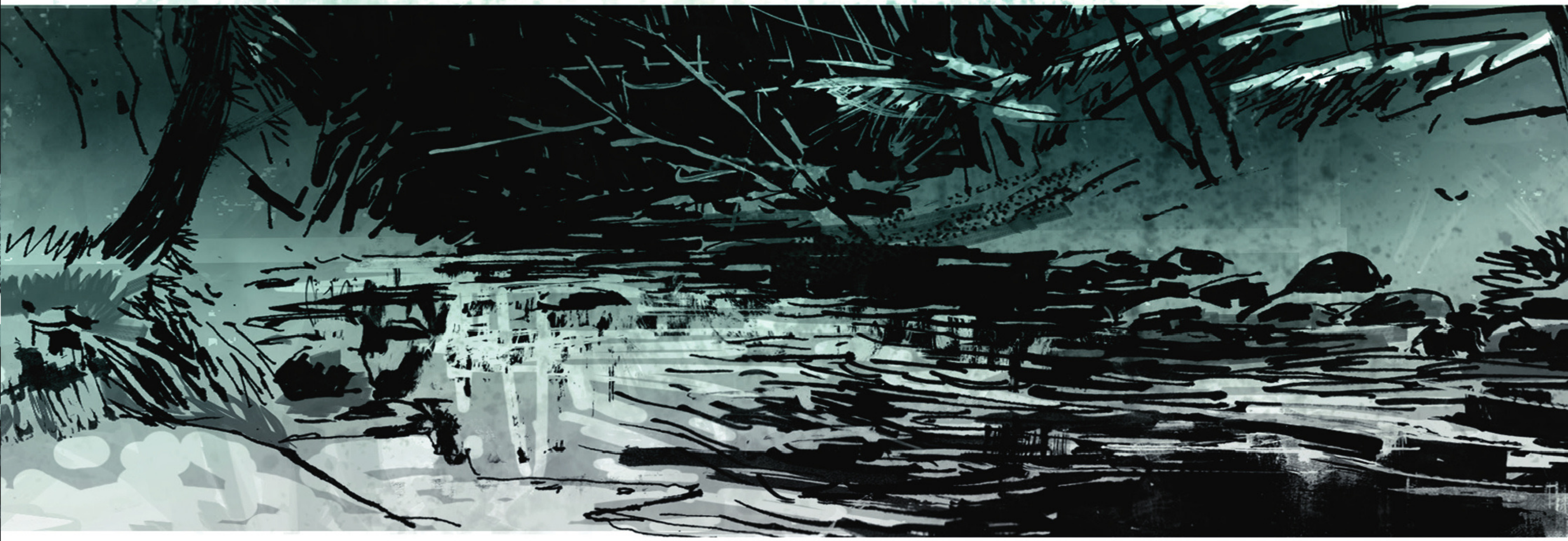
SKLAN
KRUSH
THOK

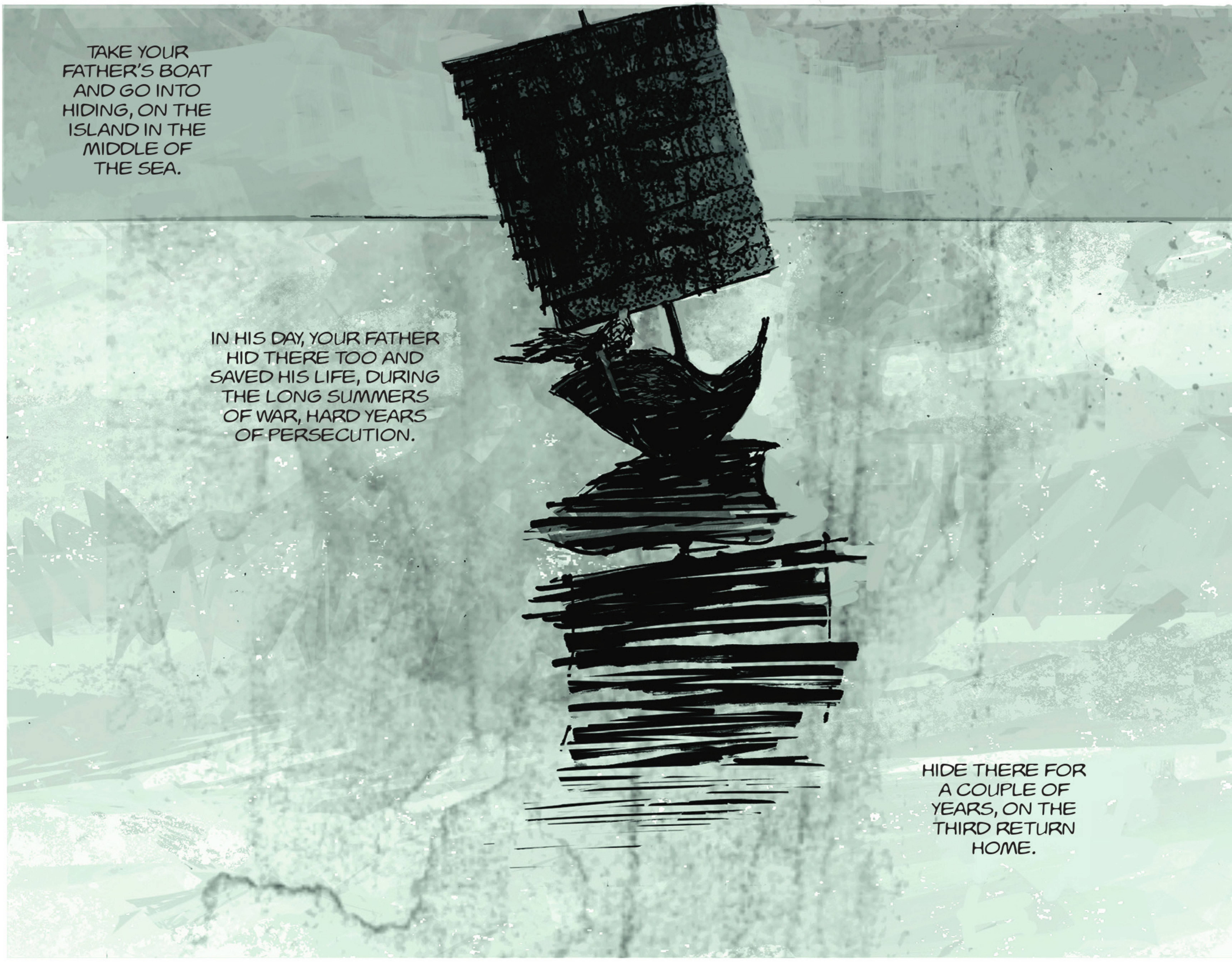

OOOOOOOAAAAAARRRRRGGGGGHH HHHHHH
MILD LEMMINKÄINEN KILLED YOUR MASTER! CUT THE SCUM'S THROAT!!



WHAT IS IT, MY SON? DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO YOU IN POHJOLA?
WELL, YOUR SON MUST LEAVE NOW. I HAVE TO FLEE. THE MEN ARE ALREADY GRINDING THEIR SWORDS AND SHARPENING THEIR SPEARS.
I DID A BAD THING AT THE POHJOLA HOMESTEAD.


I KILLED THE BOY FROM POHJOLA, THE MASTER OF THE HOUSE HIMSELF!




TAKE YOUR FATHER'S BOAT AND GO INTO HIDING, ON THE ISLAND IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SEA.
IN HIS DAY, YOUR FATHER HID THERE TOO AND SAVED HIS LIFE, DURING THE LONG SUMMERS OF WAR, HARD YEARS OF PERSECUTION.
HIDE THERE FOR A COUPLE OF YEARS, ON THE THIRD RETURN HOME.

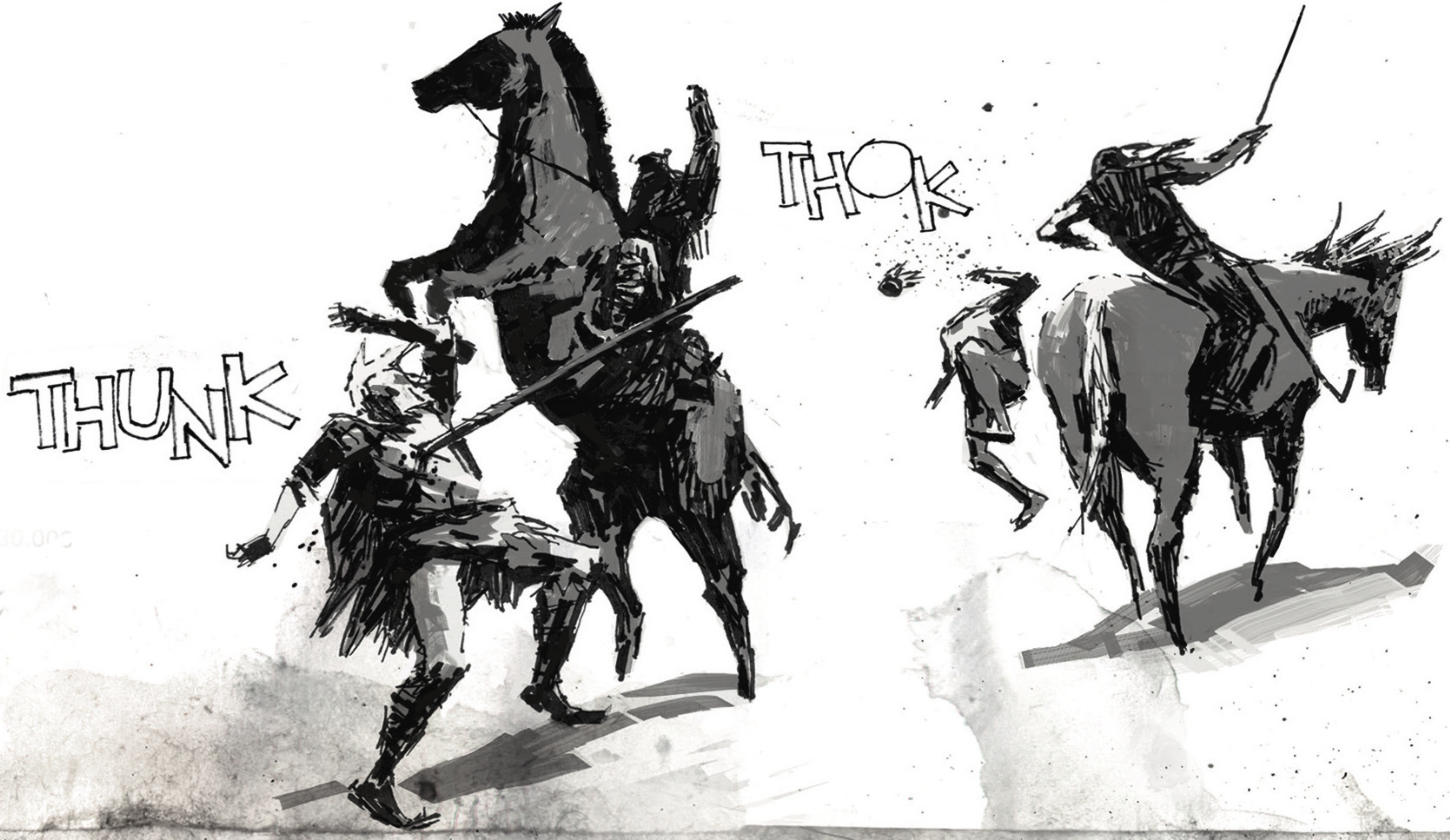
PART 2 - KALEVALA: SAMPO

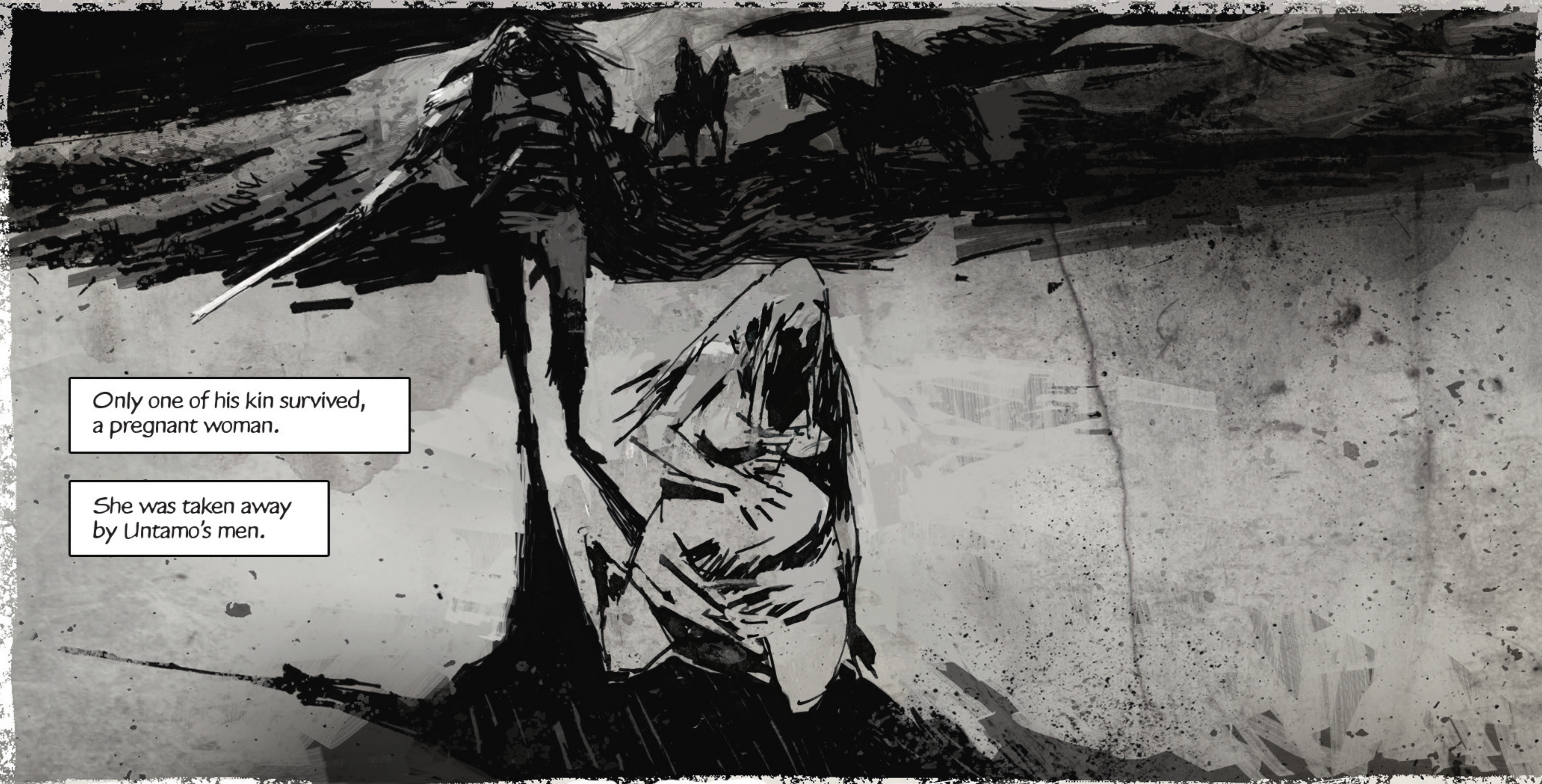
Some time ago, a baby boy was born to an unhappy mother.
The boy grew. Prediction was he would prove the destruction of his uncle Untamo's family.
Where should we put the boy, to get him killed off?
KULLERVO
BLACK-SMITH?

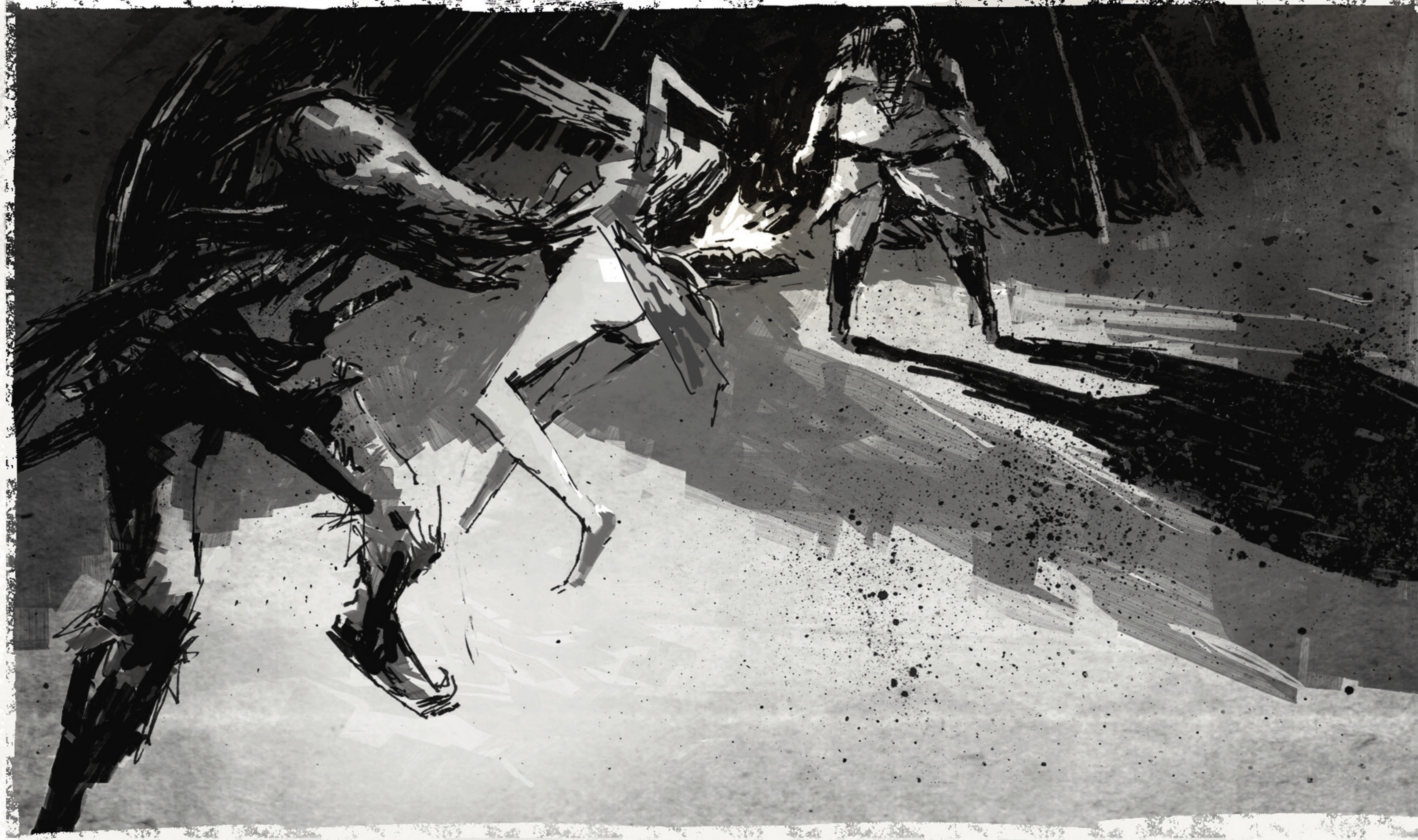
BLACKSMITH... I HAVE HERE A GOOD SLAVE FOR YOU TO WIELD THE SLEDGEHAMMER. THEY CALL HIM KULLERVO.
THE SLEDGEHAMMER? I DOUBT THIS BOY IS FIT FOR THAT...
THAT HE IS. ILL-NATURED HE IS, THEY SAY. HIS FORMER MASTER TRIED TO KILL HIM. BUT DIDN'T SUCCEED... BY BURNING OR EVEN HANGING HIM.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAY MUCH...
HAHAHA-HAHA!

KLANG KLANG KLANG
WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT, YOU HALF-WIT?! YOU HAVE PREYED ON ME EVER SINCE YOU CAME TO WORK FOR MY HUSBAND!
GO TEND THE CATTLE.

AND NO EATING BREAD BEFORE THE CATTLE RANGE THE FOREST!
Kullervo remembered his mother's tale, the family's terrible fate.
Untamo, who had come with his men and slain Kalervo's clan.

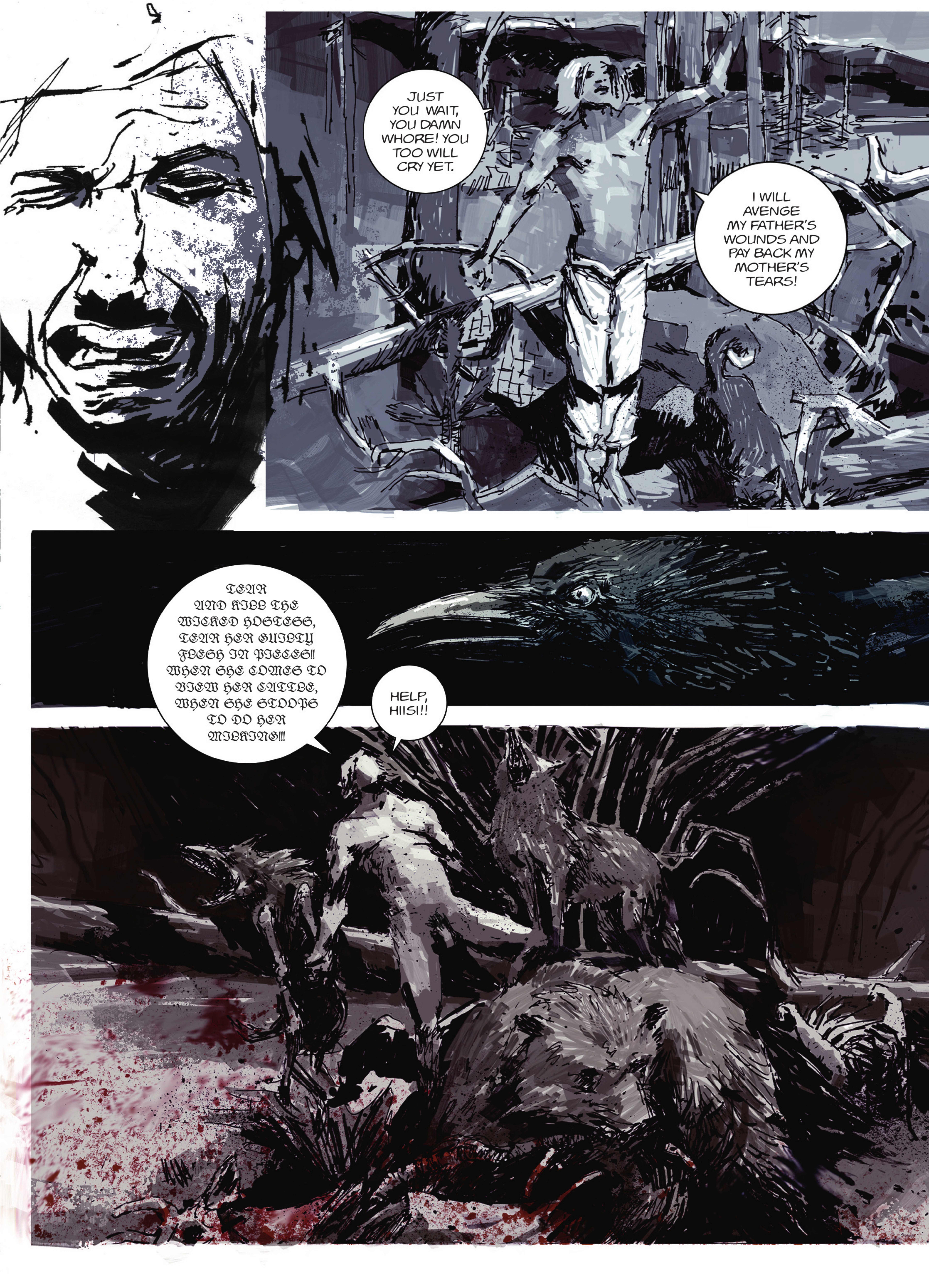

THUNK
THOK


Only one of his kin survived, a pregnant woman.
She was taken away by Untamo's men.



KULLERVO.
WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT, YOU FOOL? WE SHOULD KILL HIM: THE BOY WILL BRING DISASTER UPON MY FAMILY.
SHOVE HIM IN A BARREL AND DROWN HIM.
HANG HIM FROM AN OAK.
GATHER ENOUGH FIREWOOD TO BURN A BOY...

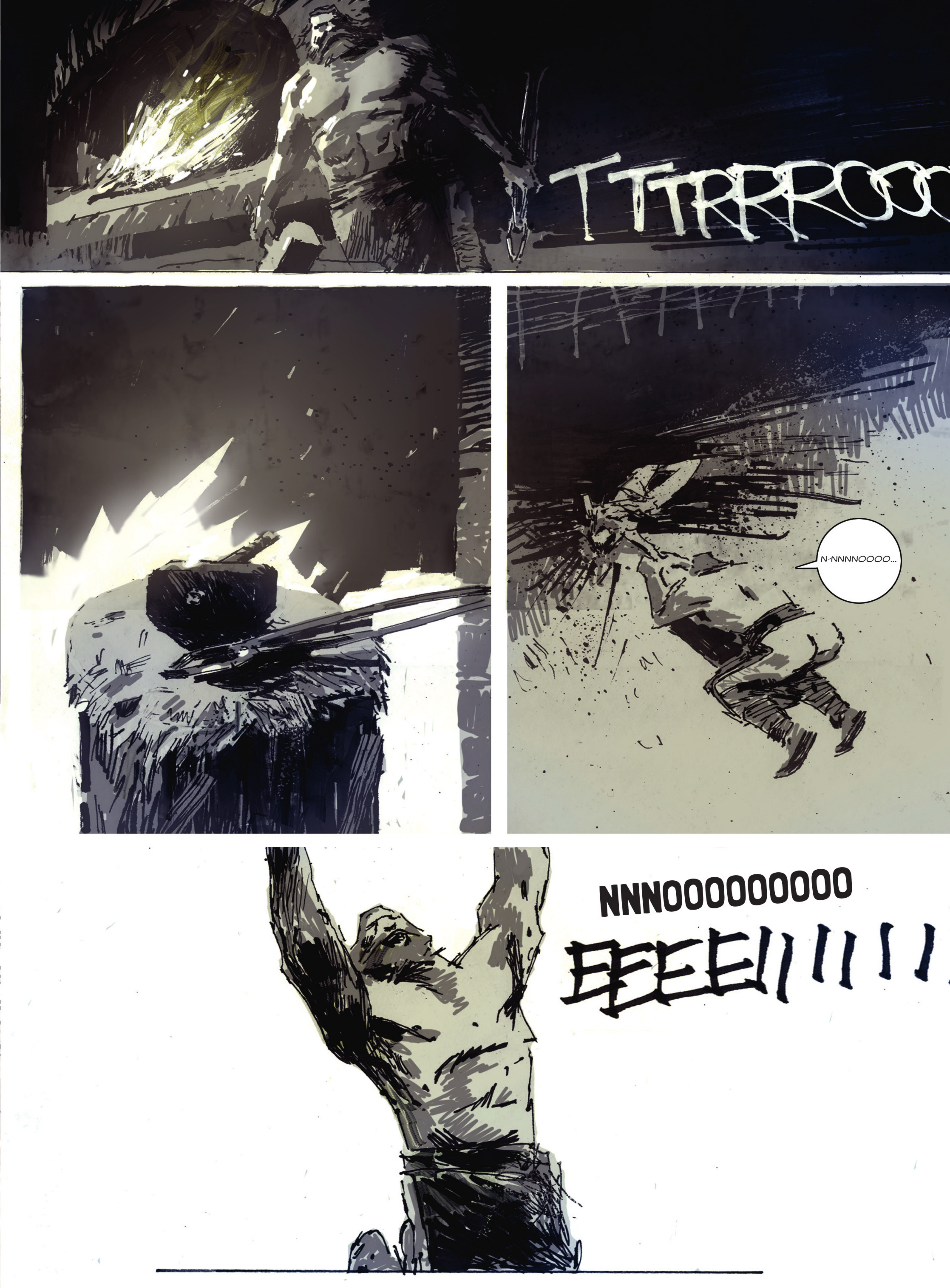
NOW IS THE TIME FOR THE SLAVE TO EAT.
HALF-WIT.

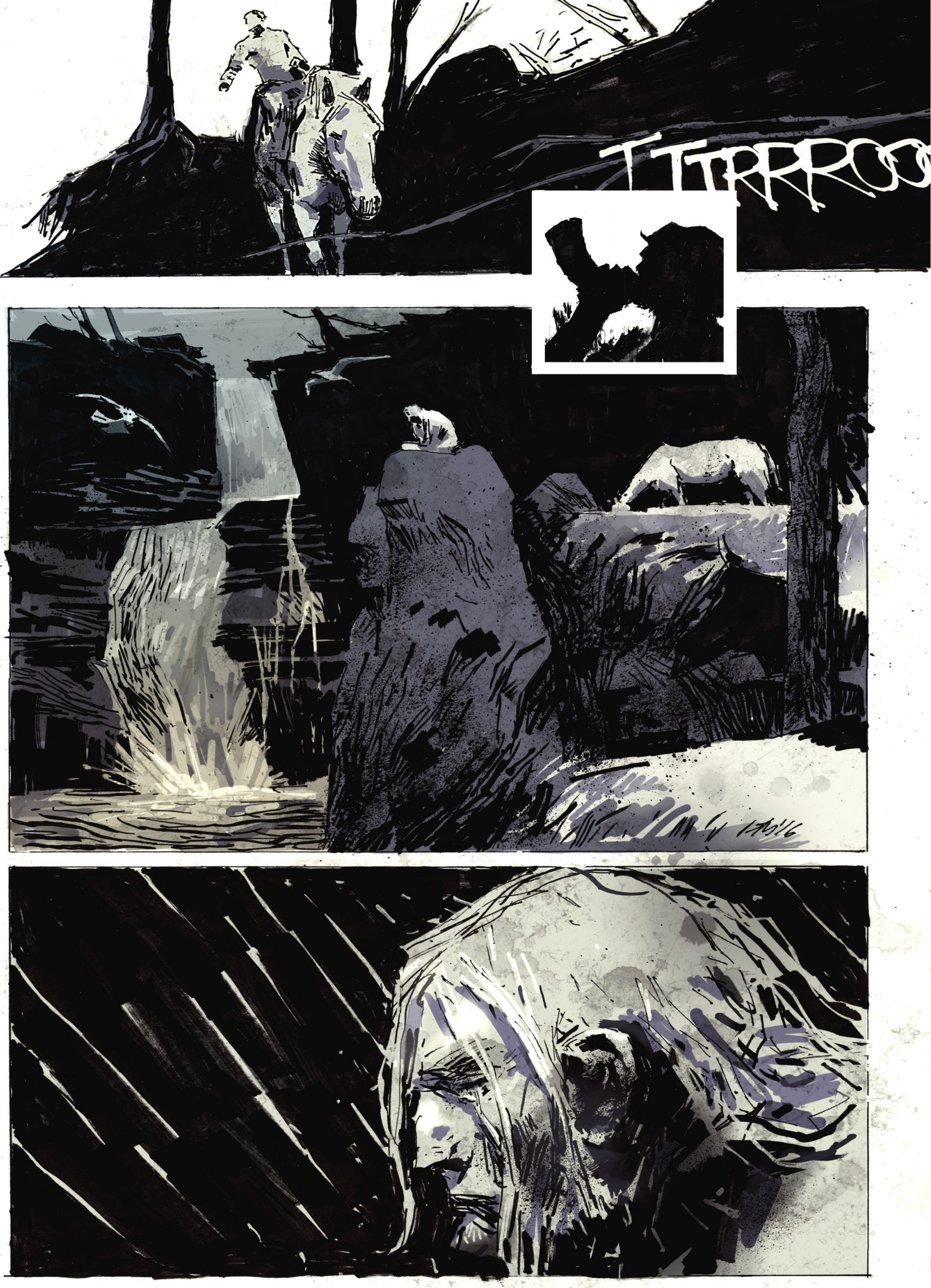

JUST YOU WAIT, YOU DAMN WHORE! YOU TOO WILL CRY YET.
I WILL AVENGE MY FATHER'S WOUNDS AND PAY BACK MY MOTHER'S TEARS!
TEAR AND KILL THE WICKED HOSTESS, TEAR HER GUILTY FLESH IN PIECES!! WHEN SHE COMES TO VIEW HER CATTLE, WHEN SHE STOOPS TO DO HER MILKING!!!
HELP, HIISI!!

CALLS THE WOLVES HIS LITTLE CHILDREN, CALLS THE BEARS HIS STANDARD-BEARERS!! CHANGES ALL HIS HERD OF CATTLE INTO WOLVES AND BEARS BY MAGIC!!
TTTRRROOOOOOO
HERE COME MY CATTLE! I'VE WAITED LONG FOR THE MILK.

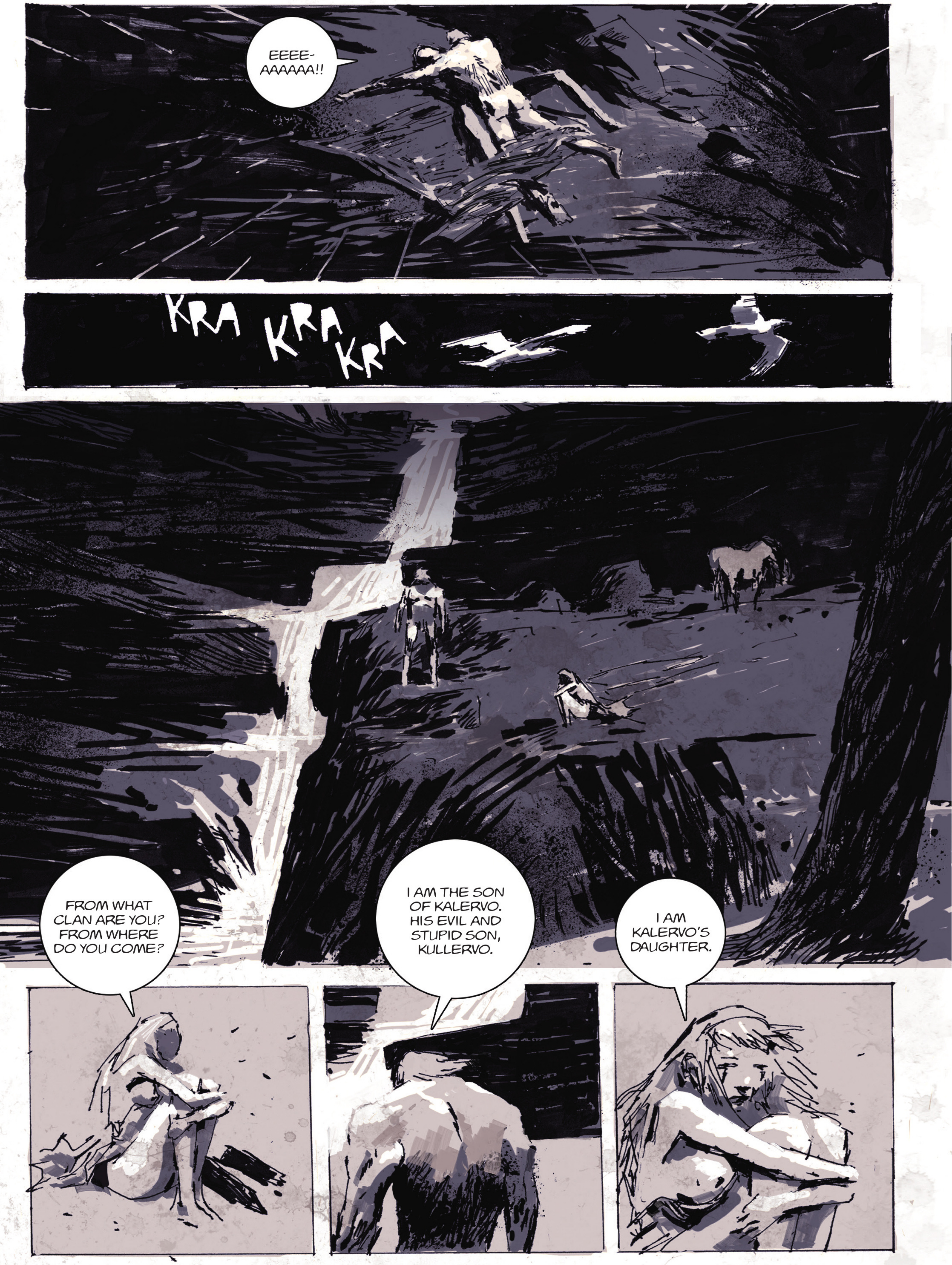
GRAWL
RAWWL

AAARH! COME HELP ME...
DIE IF YOU MEAN TO DIE! THERE IS ROOM IN THE EARTH FOR THOSE WHO ARE GONE AND A RESTING PLACE FOR BRAGGARTS. YOU WON'T RISE FROM THERE AGAIN!

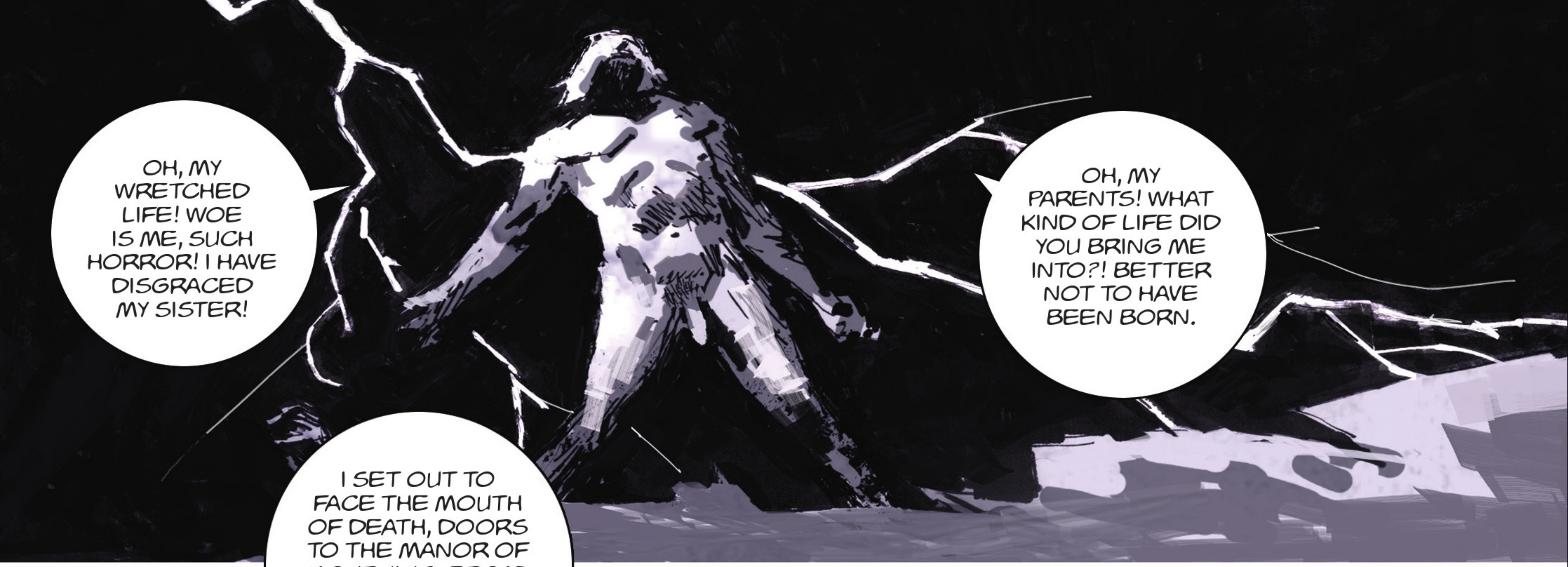

TTTRRROOO
N-NNNNOOOO...
NNNOOOOOOOOOO
EEE!!!!!!

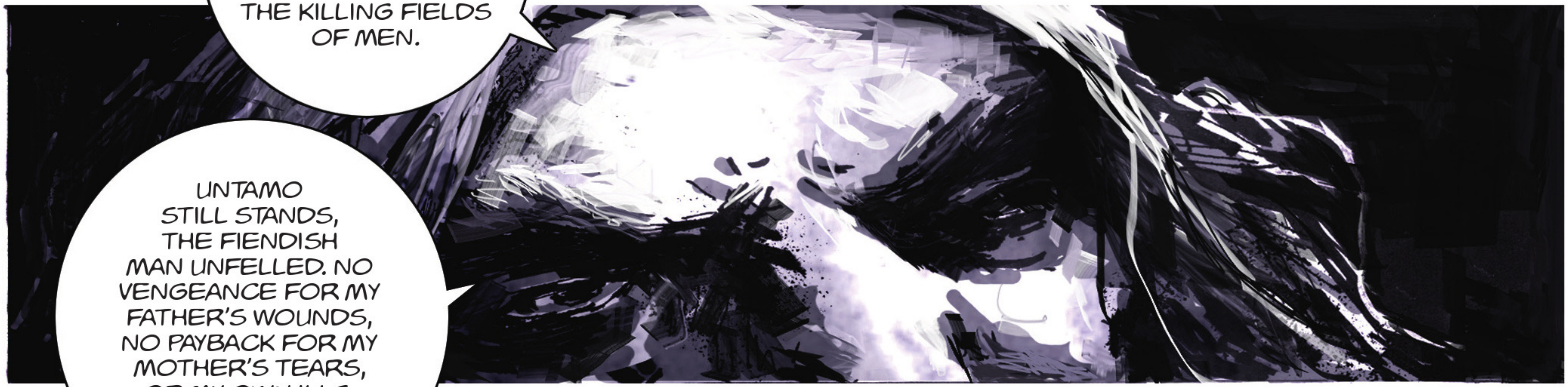

TTTRRROO

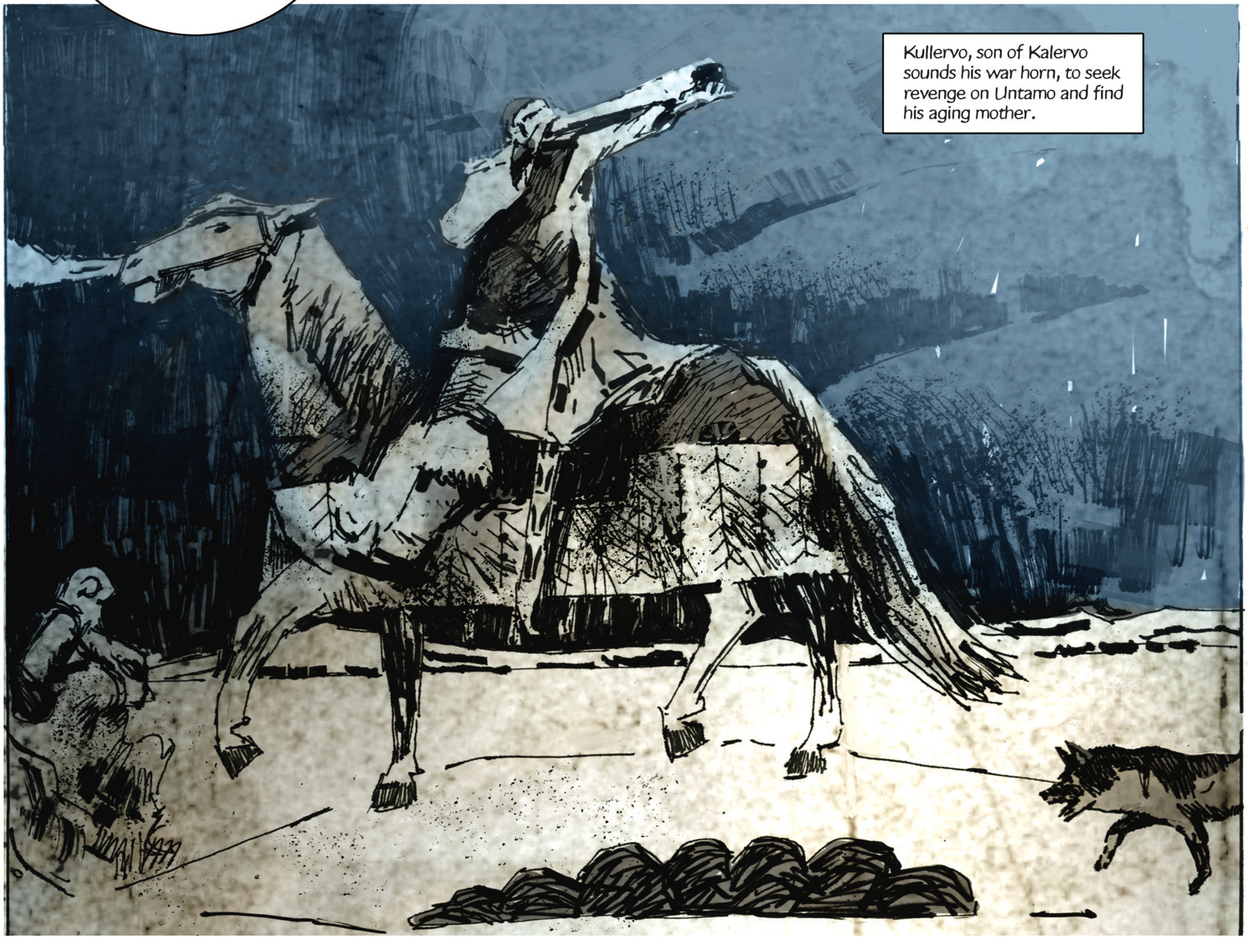
FAIR MAIDEN, COME UNDER THIS WARM BLANKET... TO SHARE MY APPLES AND NUTS!
MAY THE DEVIL SHARE YOUR BLANKET!
I HAVE SILVER COINS!
LET ME GO!

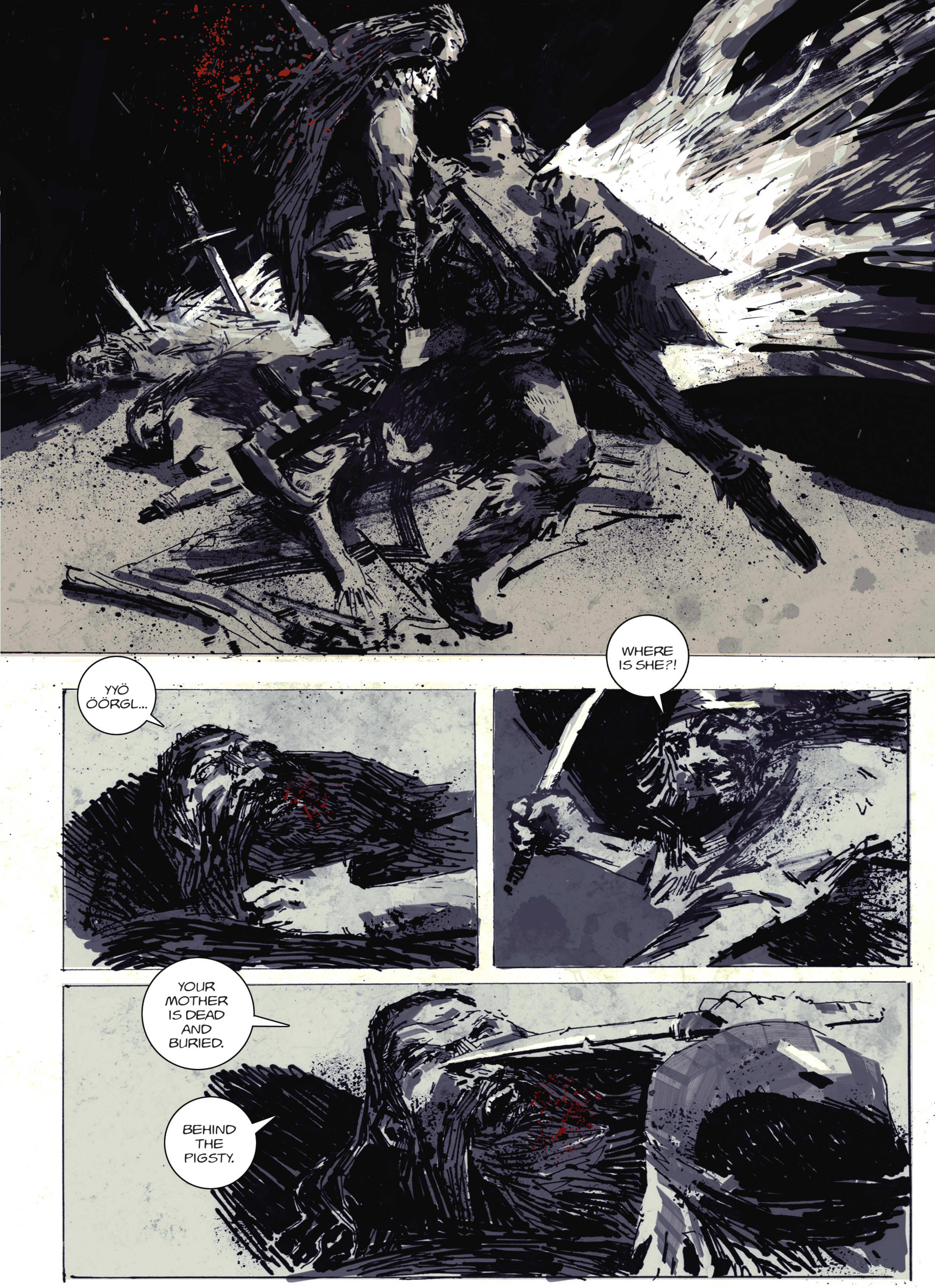

EEEE-
AAAAAA!!
KRA KRA KRA
FROM WHAT CLAN ARE YOU? FROM WHERE DO YOU COME?
I AM THE SON OF KALERVO. HIS EVIL AND STUPID SON, KULLERVO.
I AM KALERVO'S DAUGHTER.

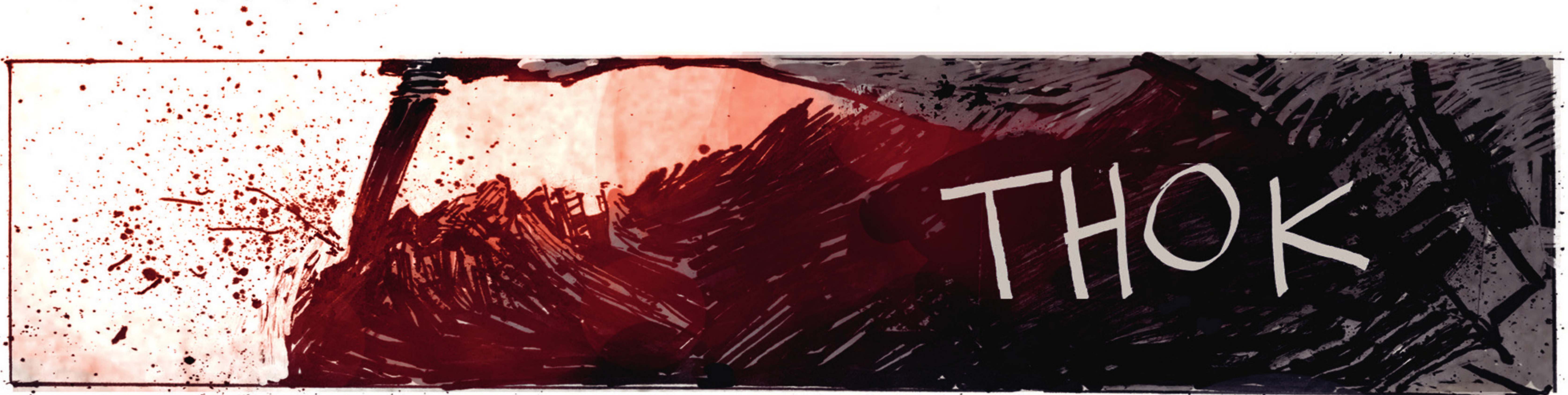
AS A CHILD, I GOT LOST BERRY-PICKING IN THE FOREST. I WISH I HAD DIED!
WHEN I FINALLY FOUND MY WAY BACK TO KALERVO'S LAND, THE ENTIRE VILLAGE WAS DESTROYED, MY FAMILY ALL KILLED.
STOP!

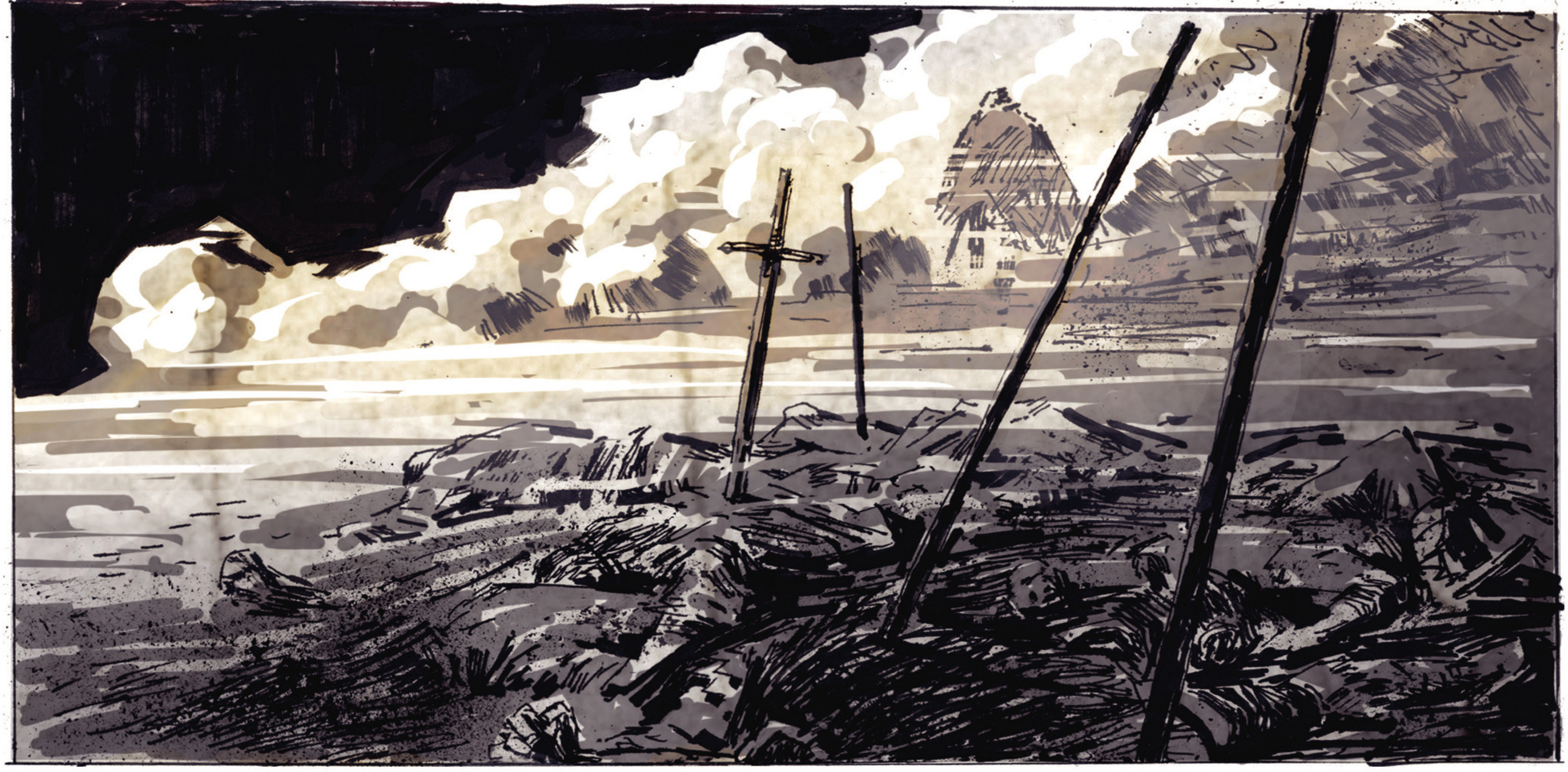

OH, MY WRETCHED LIFE! WOE IS ME, SUCH HORROR! I HAVE DISGRACED MY SISTER!
OH, MY PARENTS! WHAT KIND OF LIFE DID YOU BRING ME INTO?! BETTER NOT TO HAVE BEEN BORN.

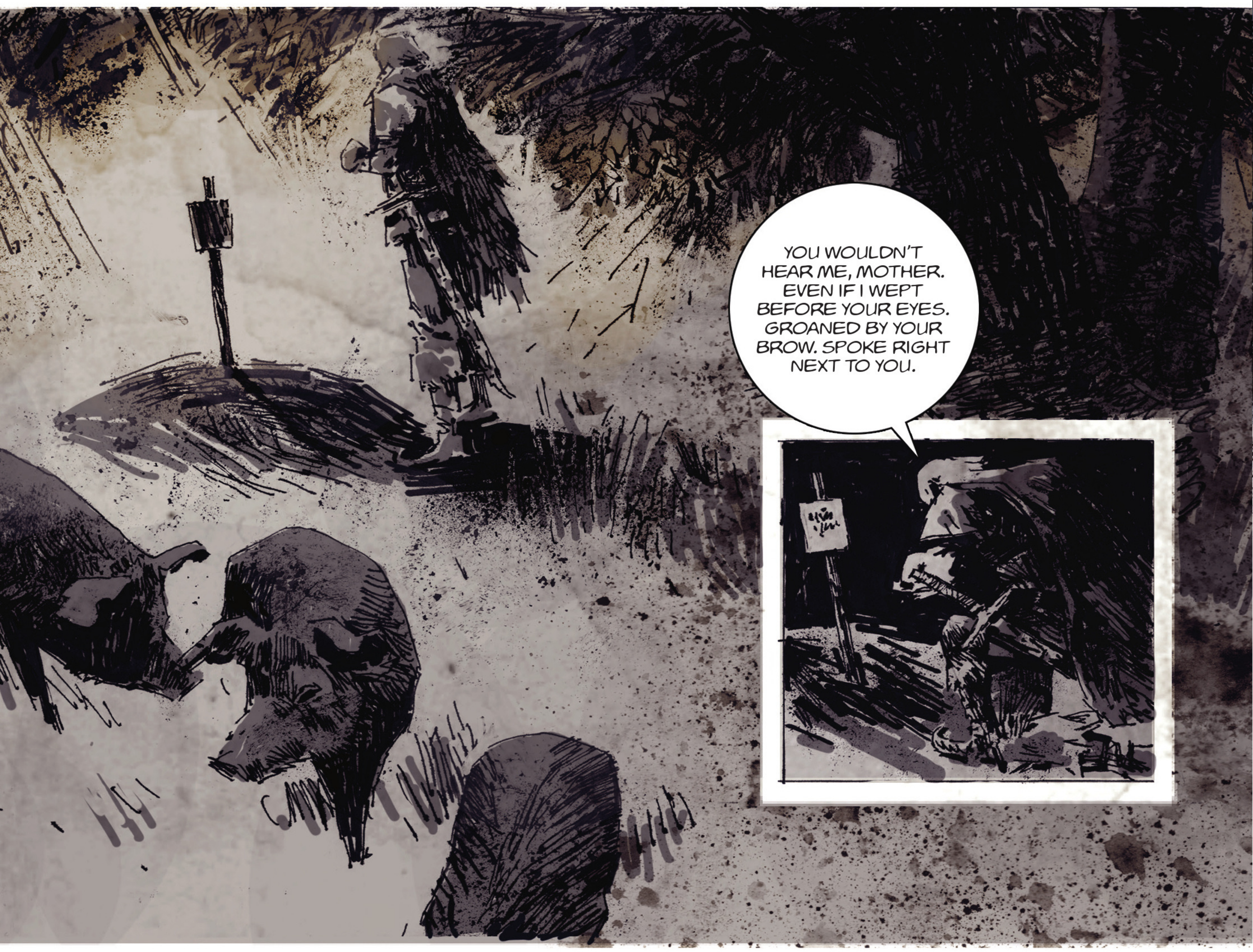

I SET OUT TO FACE THE MOUTH OF DEATH, DOORS TO THE MANOR OF MOURNING, BROAD BATTLEGROUNDS, THE KILLING FIELDS OF MEN.
UNTAMO STILL STANDS, THE FIENDISH MAN UNFELLED. NO VENGEANCE FOR MY FATHER'S WOUNDS, NO PAYBACK FOR MY MOTHER'S TEARS, OR MY OWN ILLS, THE "GOOD" CARE I GOT.

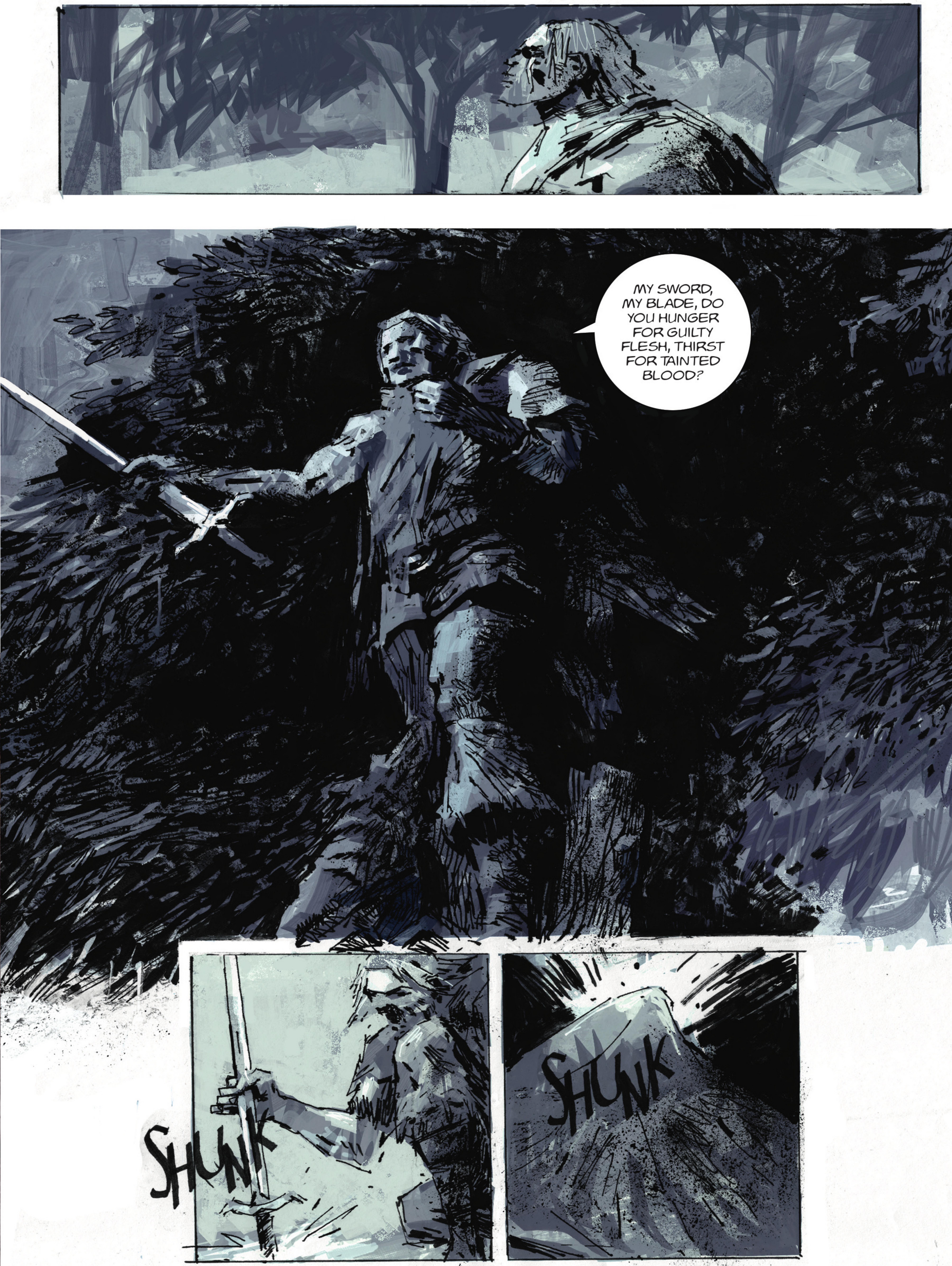

Kullervo, son of Kalervo sounds his war horn, to seek revenge on Untamo and find his aging mother.

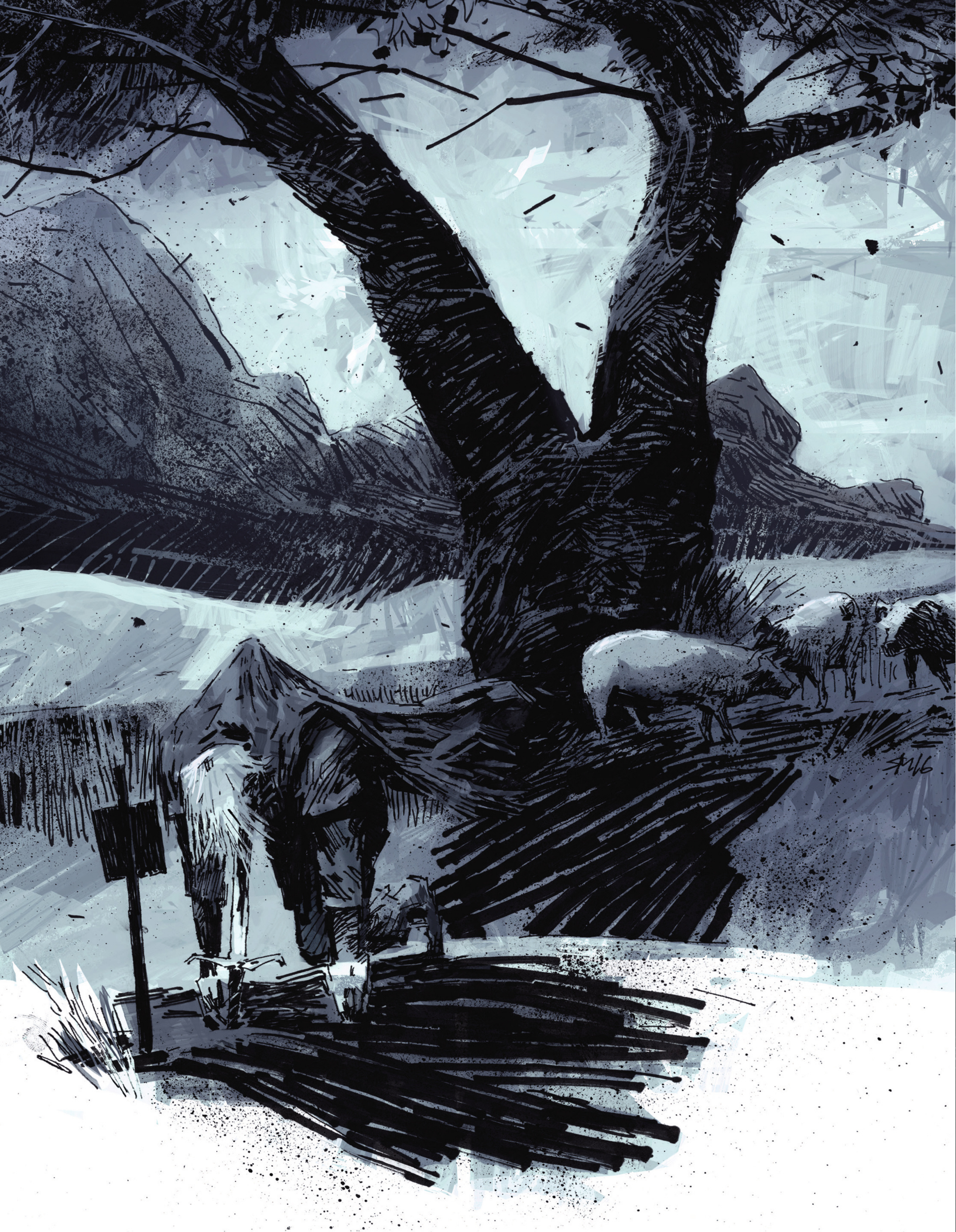

YYÖ ÖÖRGL...
WHERE IS SHE?!
YOUR MOTHER IS DEAD AND BURIED.
BEHIND THE PIGSTY.


THOK



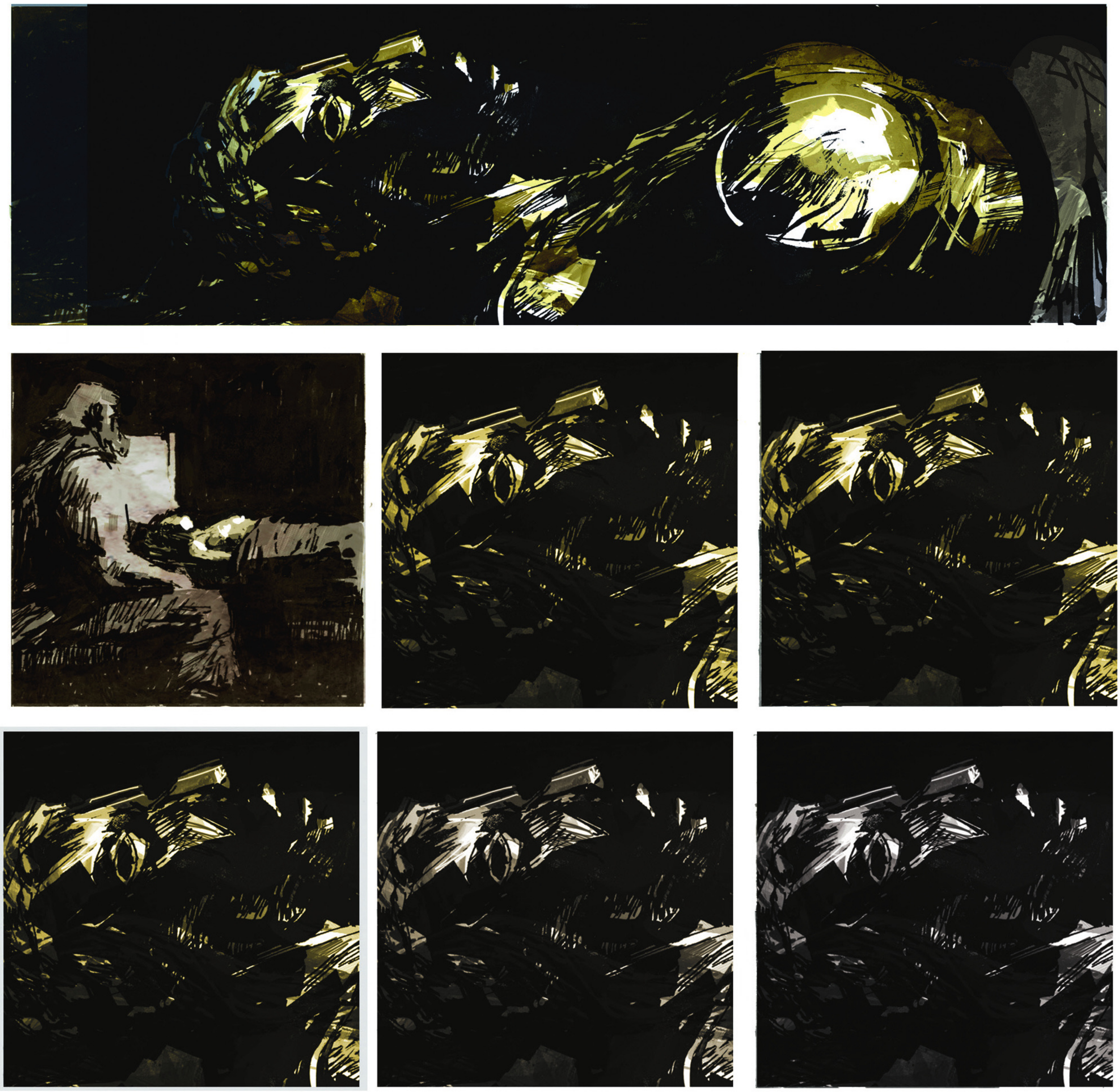

YOU WOULDN'T HEAR ME, MOTHER. EVEN IF I WEPT BEFORE YOUR EYES. GROANED BY YOUR BROW. SPOKE RIGHT NEXT TO YOU.

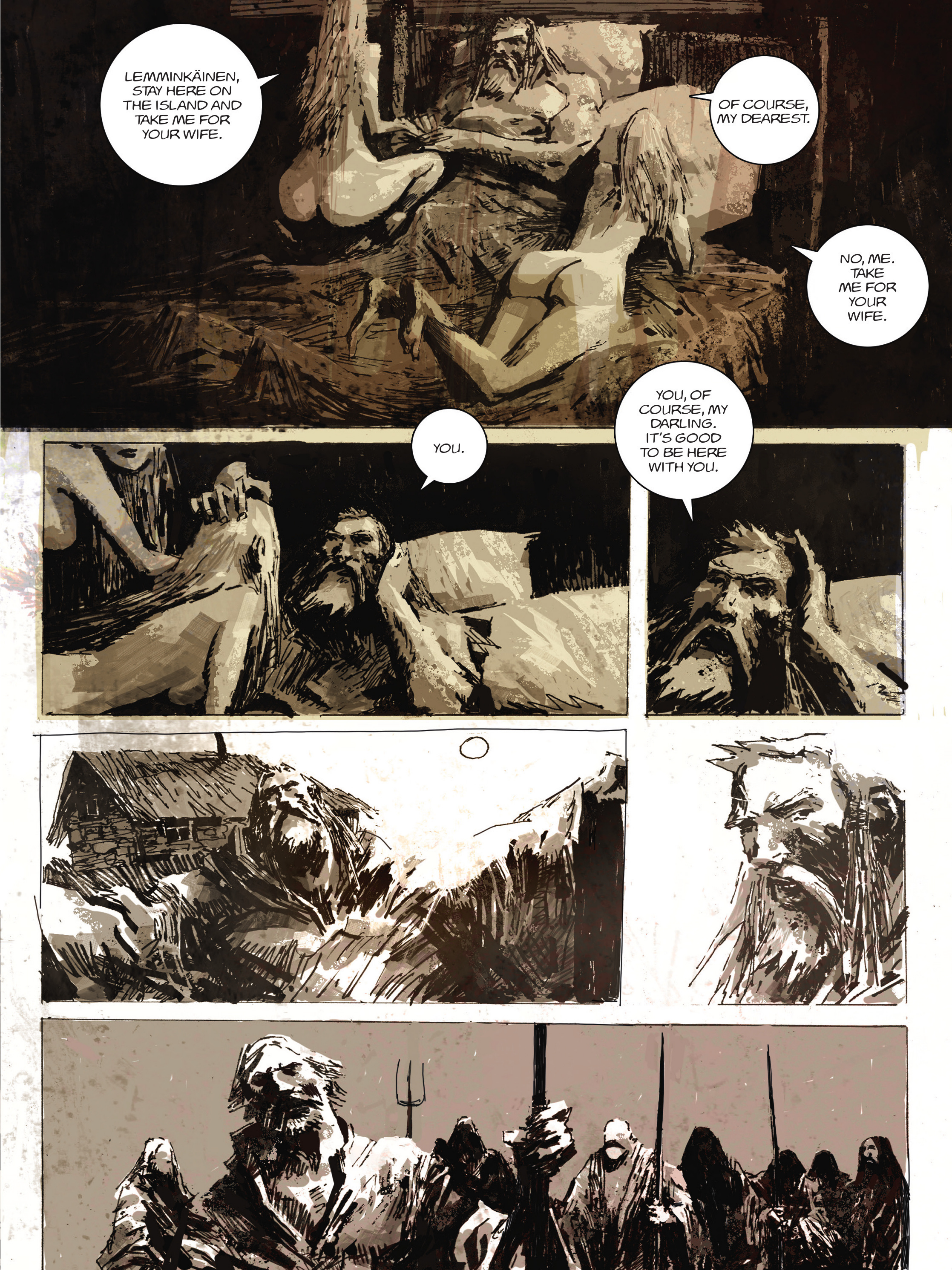

MY SWORD, MY BLADE, DO YOU HUNGER FOR GUILTY FLESH, THIRST FOR TAINTED BLOOD?
SHUNK
SHUNK



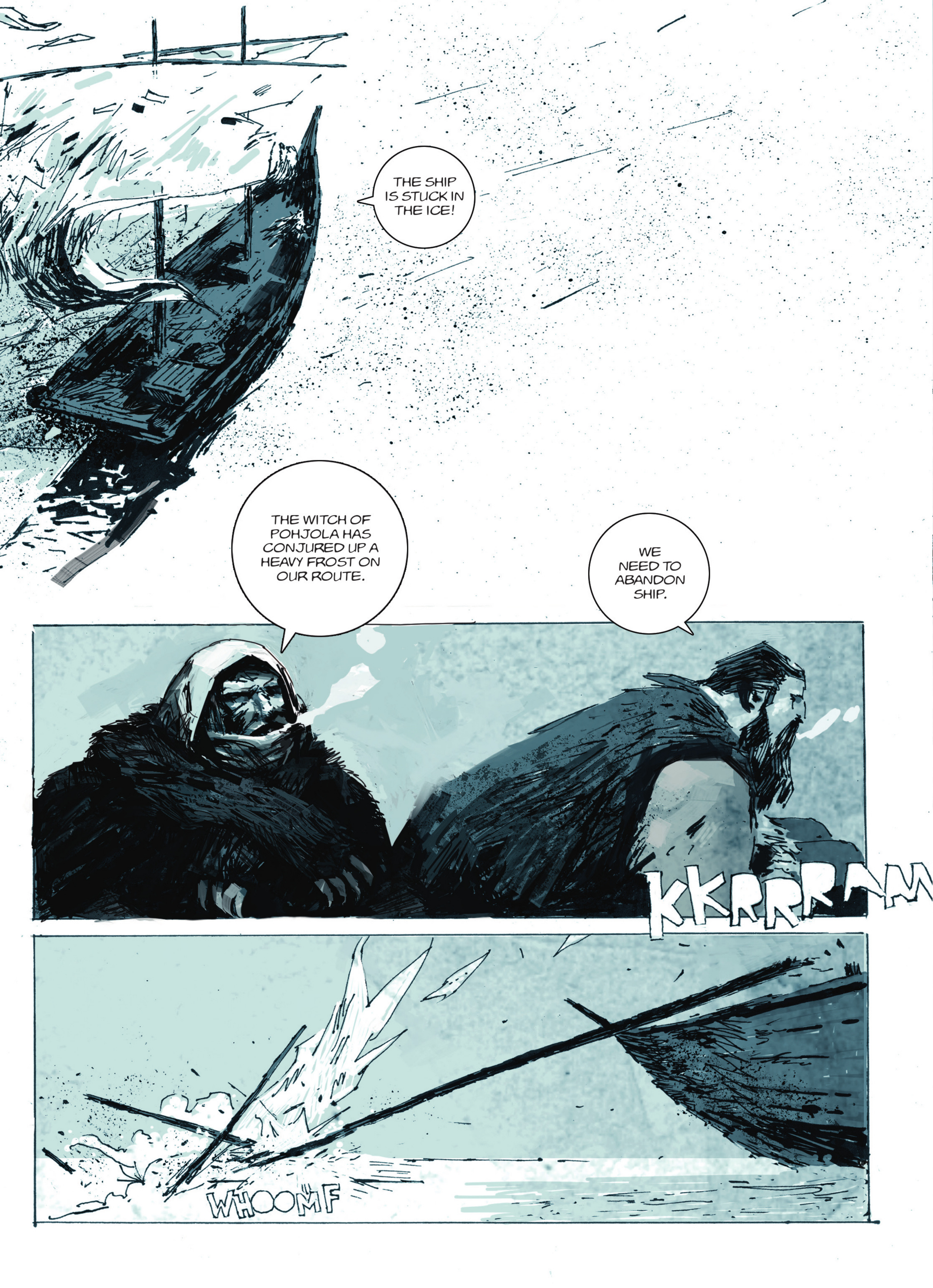
(THE WORLD IS THE TROPHY OF THE POWERFUL.)

I KNOW NOT, POOR MAN, HOW TO BE. MY EVENINGS ARE EMPTY, MORNINGS BLEAK.
FAREWELL NOW, MY LITTLE BERRY.
THE GOLDEN WOMAN



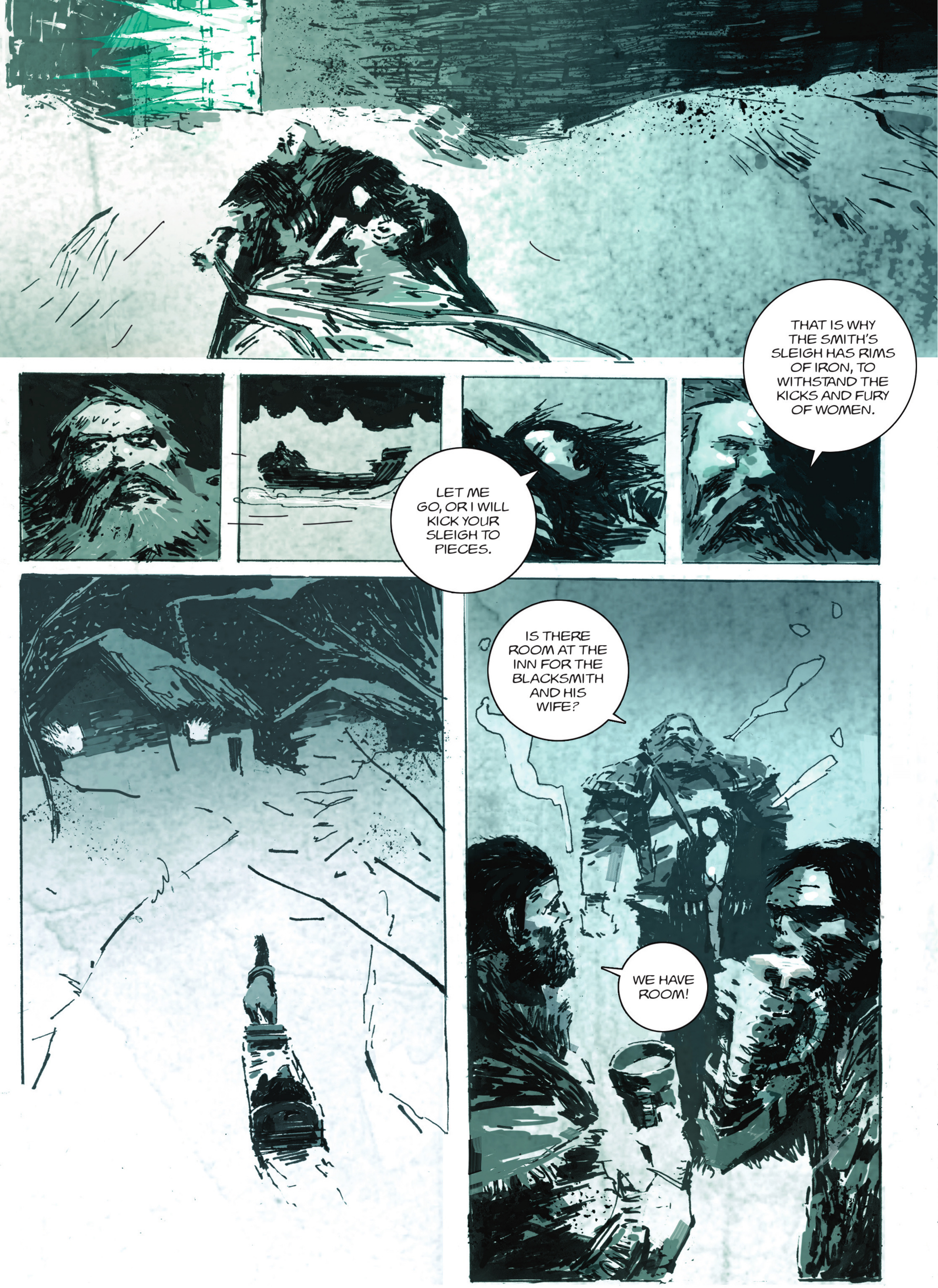

LEMMINKÄINEN, STAY HERE ON THE ISLAND AND TAKE ME FOR YOUR WIFE.
OF COURSE, MY DEAREST.
NO, ME. TAKE ME FOR YOUR WIFE.
YOU.
YOU, OF COURSE, MY DARLING. IT'S GOOD TO BE HERE WITH YOU.

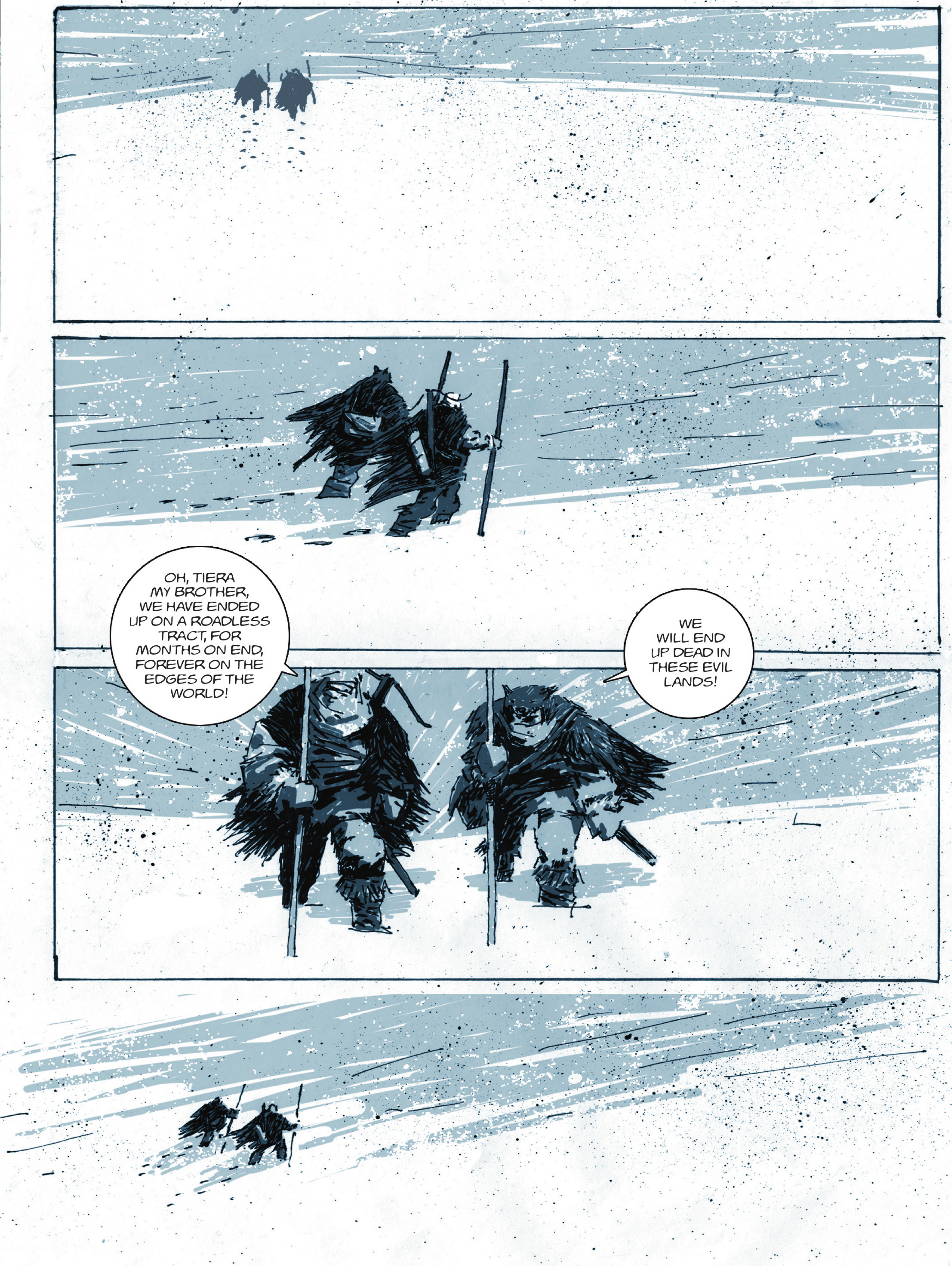
MY TIERA. FAITHFUL, DEAR, MY ONLY FRIEND!
DO YOU REMEMBER OUR FORMER LIFE, WHEN THE TWO OF US CROSSED HUGE BATTLEFIELDS?
THERE WAS NOT A VILLAGE WE DIDN'T PLUNDER AND PILLAGE TOGETHER.
TIERA HAS NO TIME FOR WAR NOW. HE HAS MADE A GOOD BARGAIN, A LIFELONG DEAL.
HE HAS TAKEN A YOUNG WOMAN TO BE HIS WIFE.
WHILE I WAS ON THE ISLAND, THE SON OF POHJA BURNED DOWN MY HOUSE.
WHERE ARE WE OFF TO?
WE ARE OFF TO POHJOLA, TO PAY SOME DEBTS...


THE SHIP IS STUCK IN THE ICE!
THE WITCH OF POHJOLA HAS CONJURED UP A HEAVY FROST ON OUR ROUTE.
WE NEED TO ABANDON SHIP.
KKRRRAM
WHOOMF

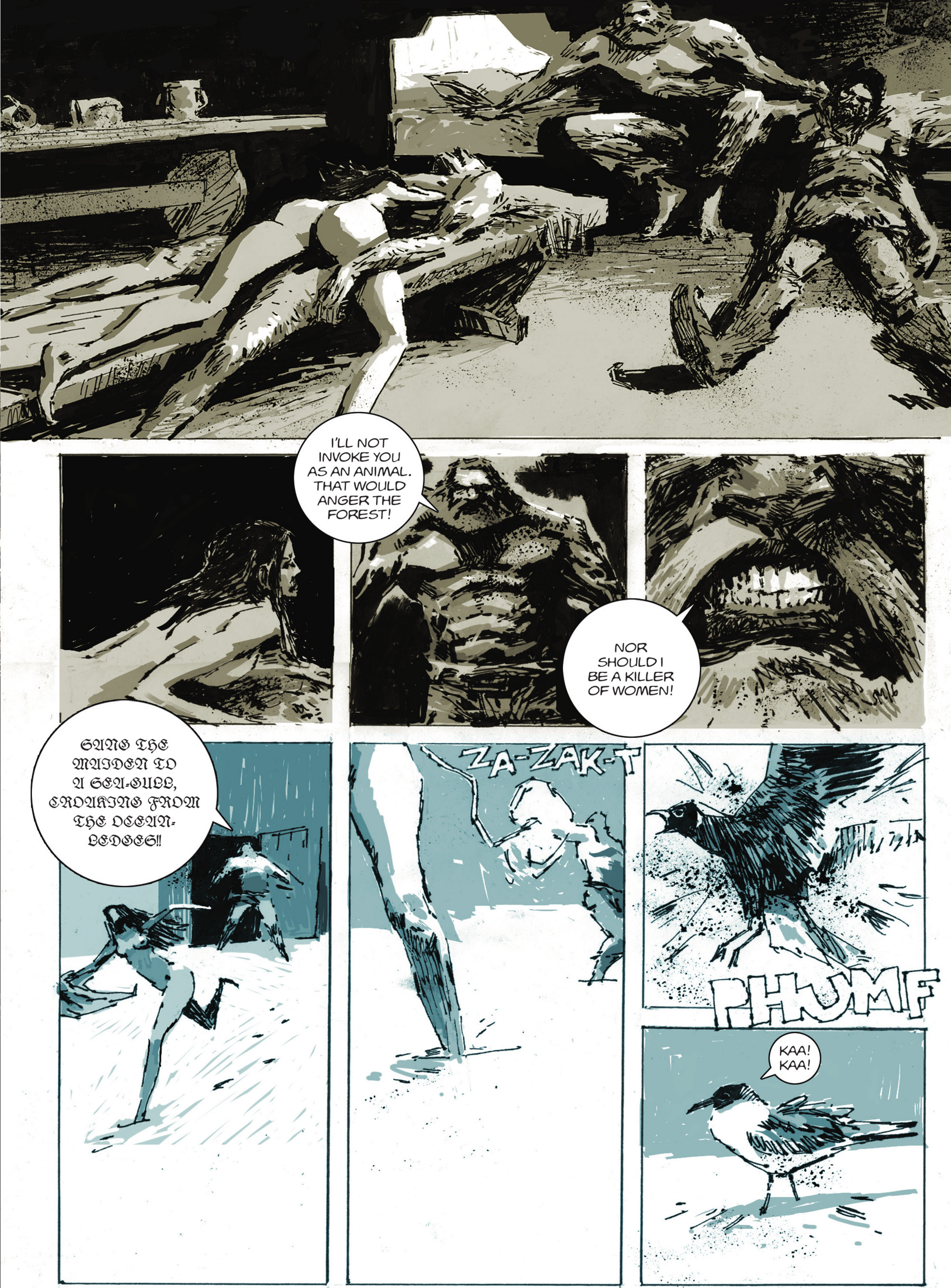
ILMARINEN, YOU DO NOT BRING BAD NEWS TO THE NORTH?
THE MEN OF KALEVA BRING DEATH WITH THEM. KAUKOMIELI KILLED THE MASTER OF THE HOUSE THREE YEARS BACK...
HOW IS MY DAUGHTER?
OH, MOTHER-IN-LAW, DO NOT ASK ABOUT YOUR DAUGHTER IN LIFE. SHE HAS BEEN TAKEN BY DEATH.
SHE IS ALREADY IN THE GROUND, MY RAVEN-HAIRED BERRY, BENEATH THE GRASS.
UAARRHH

IT IS FOR YOU I CAME HERE! COME TO ME, GIRL. TAKE YOUR SISTER'S PLACE.
TO YOU I WILL NOT COME. YOU KILLED MY SISTER. YOU WOULD KILL ME TOO.
!

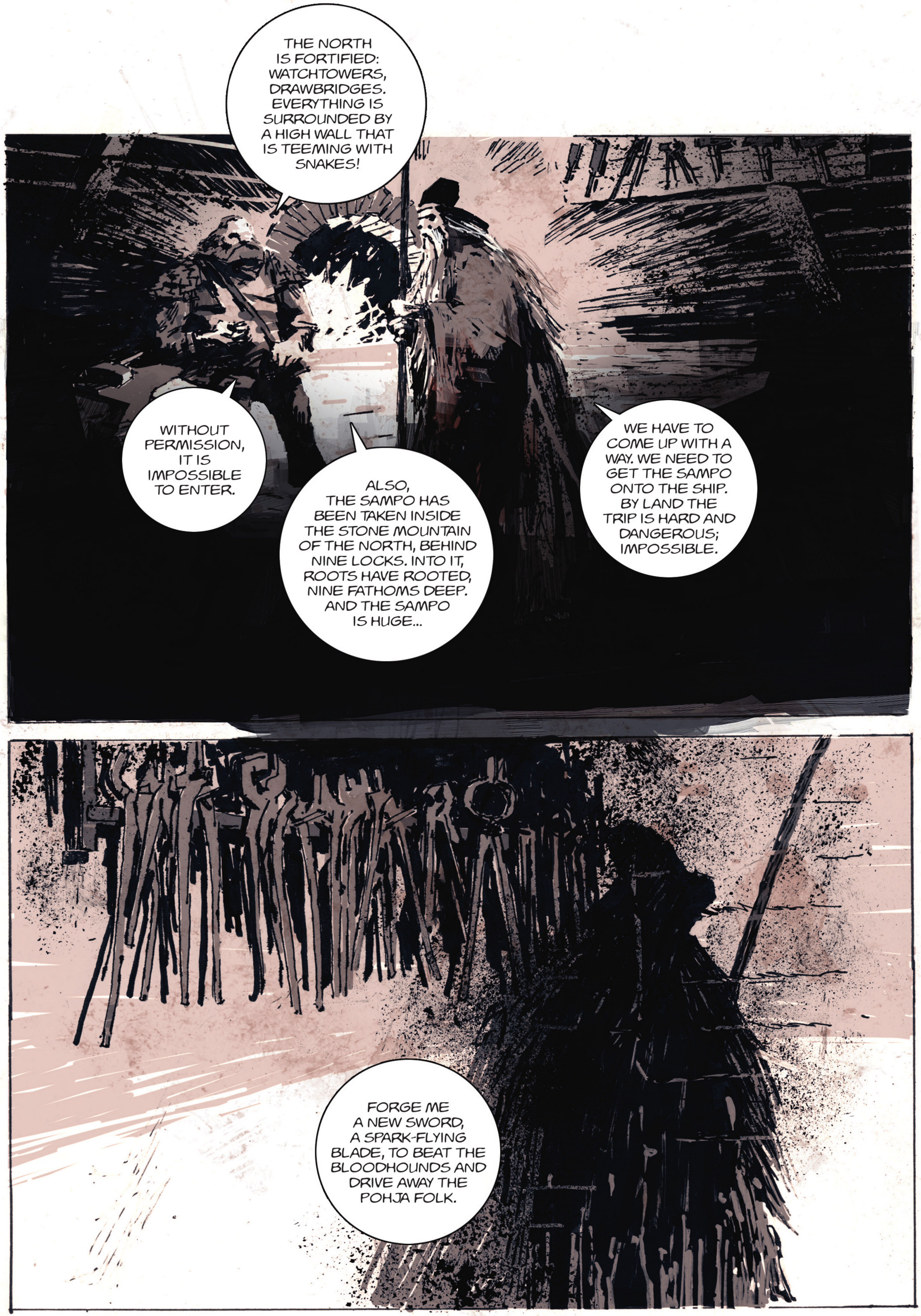

LET ME GO, OR I WILL KICK YOUR SLEIGH TO PIECES.
THAT IS WHY THE SMITH'S SLEIGH HAS RIMS OF IRON, TO WITHSTAND THE KICKS AND FURY OF WOMEN.
IS THERE ROOM AT THE INN FOR THE BLACKSMITH AND HIS WIFE?
WE HAVE ROOM!

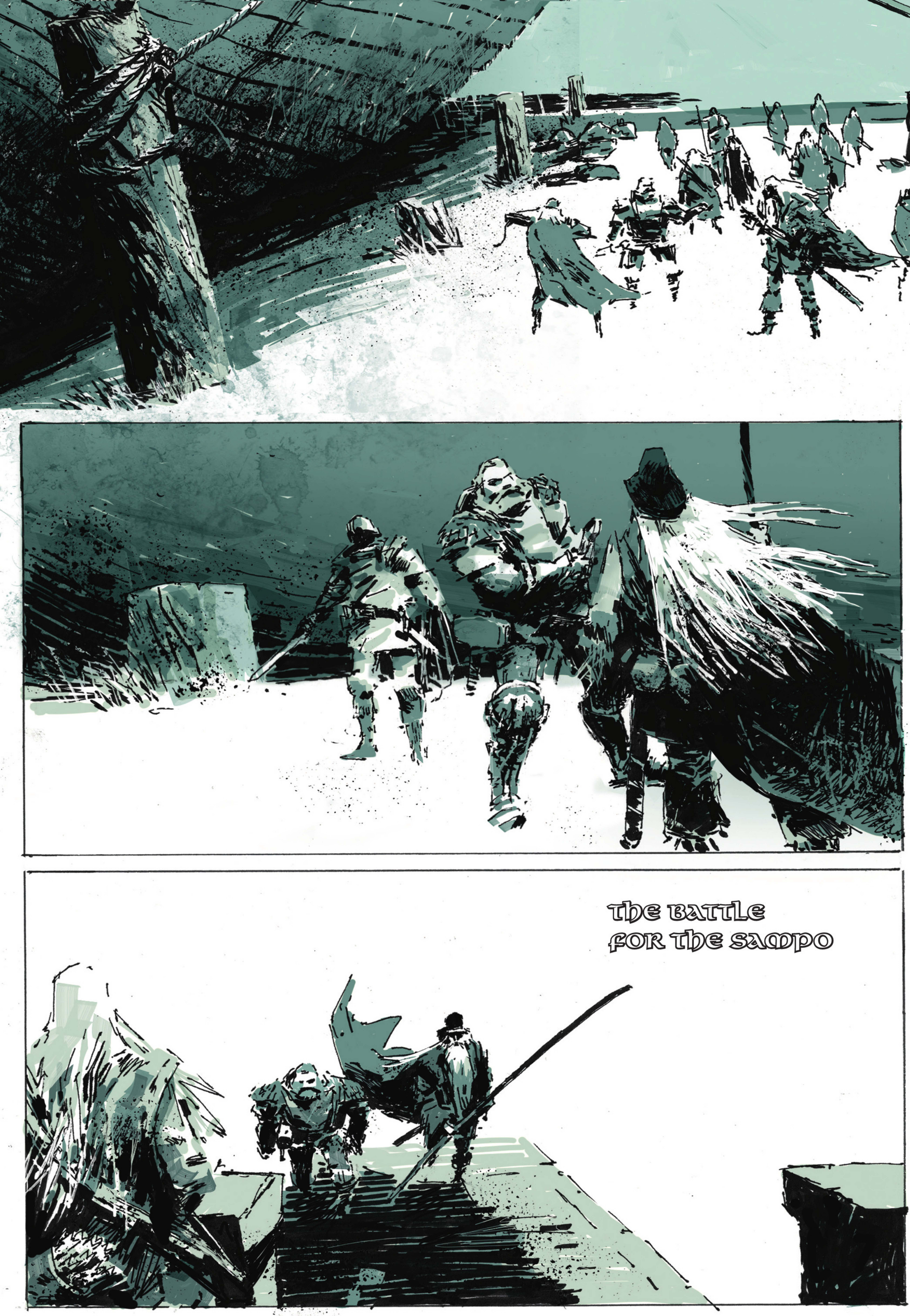

OH, TIERA MY BROTHER, WE HAVE ENDED UP ON A ROADLESS TRACT, FOR MONTHS ON END, FOREVER ON THE EDGES OF THE WORLD!
WE WILL END UP DEAD IN THESE EVIL LANDS!

HNH!?


I'LL NOT INVOKE YOU AS AN ANIMAL. THAT WOULD ANGER THE FOREST!
NOR SHOULD I BE A KILLER OF WOMEN!
SANG THE MAIDEN TO A SEA-GULL, CROAKING FROM THE OCEAN-LEDGES!!
ZA-ZAK-T
PHUMF
KAA! KAA!

PTRRUU...
SO, BROTHER, BLACKSMITH ILMARINEN, WHY IS YOUR MIND SO DARK WHEN RETURNING FROM POHJOLA? HOW IS EVERYONE THERE?
VÄINÄMÖINEN, TERRIBLE THINGS ARE HAPPENING THERE.
WE NEED TO GO AND GET THE SAMPO BACK FROM POHJOLA.
LOUHI PLANNED EVERYTHING FROM THE START.

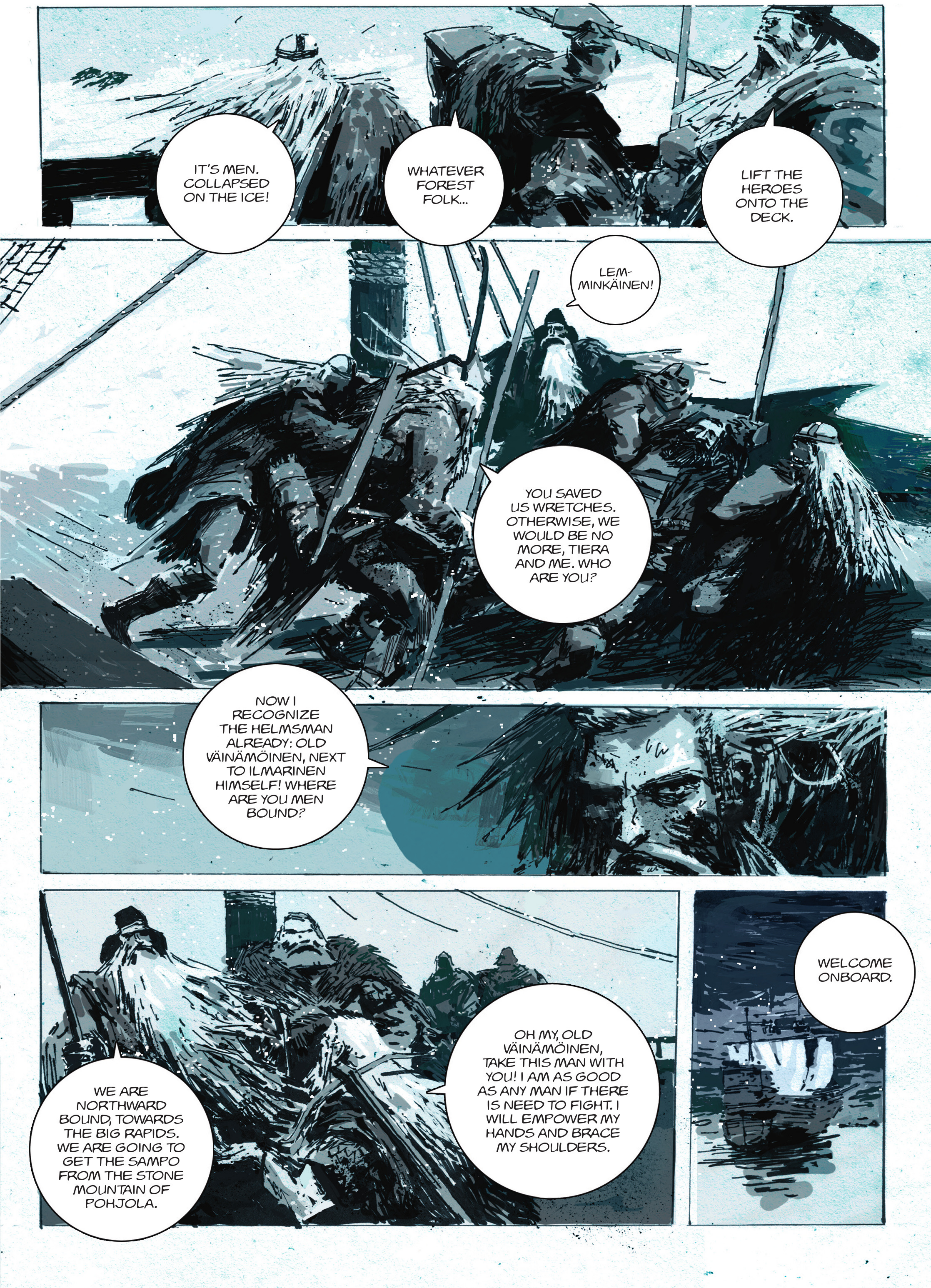

THE NORTH IS FORTIFIED: WATCHTOWERS, DRAWBRIDGES. EVERYTHING IS SURROUNDED BY A HIGH WALL THAT IS TEEMING WITH SNAKES!
WITHOUT PERMISSION, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ENTER.
ALSO, THE SAMPO HAS BEEN TAKEN INSIDE THE STONE MOUNTAIN OF THE NORTH, BEHIND NINE LOCKS. INTO IT, ROOTS HAVE ROOTED, NINE FATHOMS DEEP. AND THE SAMPO IS HUGE...
WE HAVE TO COME UP WITH A WAY. WE NEED TO GET THE SAMPO ONTO THE SHIP. BY LAND THE TRIP IS HARD AND DANGEROUS; IMPOSSIBLE.
FORGE ME A NEW SWORD, A SPARK-FLYING BLADE, TO BEAT THE BLOODHOUNDS AND DRIVE AWAY THE POHJA FOLK.


THE BATTLE FOR THE SAMPO

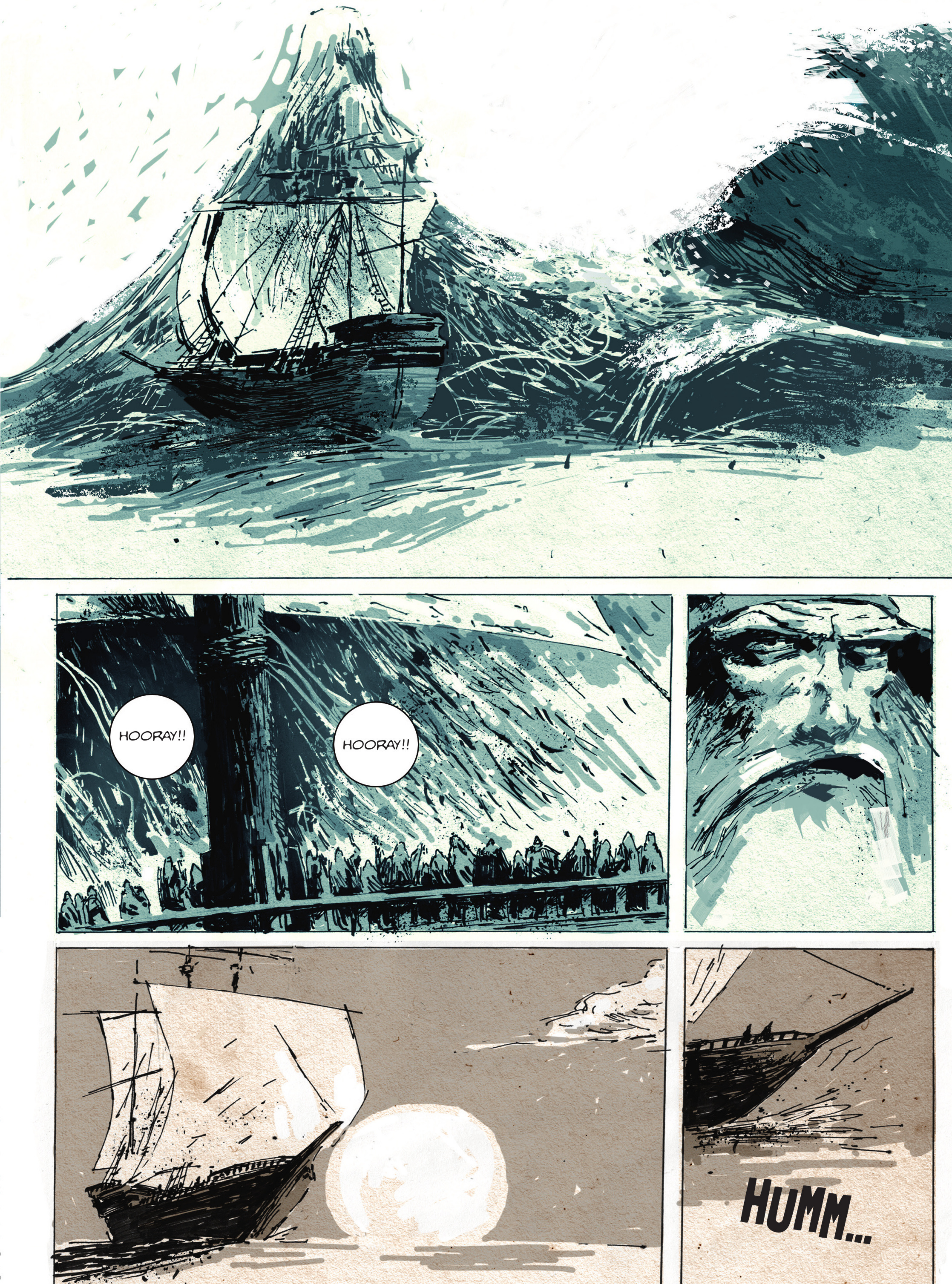
RACE, MY SHIP, ACROSS THESE WOODLESS WAVES, SAIL OVER THE WIDE WATERS!!
SPEED THOU LIKE A DANCING BUBBLE, LIKE A FLOWER UPON THE BILLOWS!!!

KRAK KRAK KRAK
THE ICE IS GETTING THICKER AND THICKER. WILL THE SHIP'S SIDES BEAR IT?!
FOR THIS, THE WARSHIP'S BOW IS STEEL-TIPPED...
SAGE!
SAGE, THERE IS A SHIP AHEAD. LOOKS DESERTED. LEFT TO FREEZE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SEA!!
WE WILL GO ON WITHOUT STOPPING! I DON'T KNOW MANY MEN WHO WOULD SURVIVE THIS KIND OF WITCH'S WEATHER WITHOUT SHELTER...
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK

KRAK
KRAK
RAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK

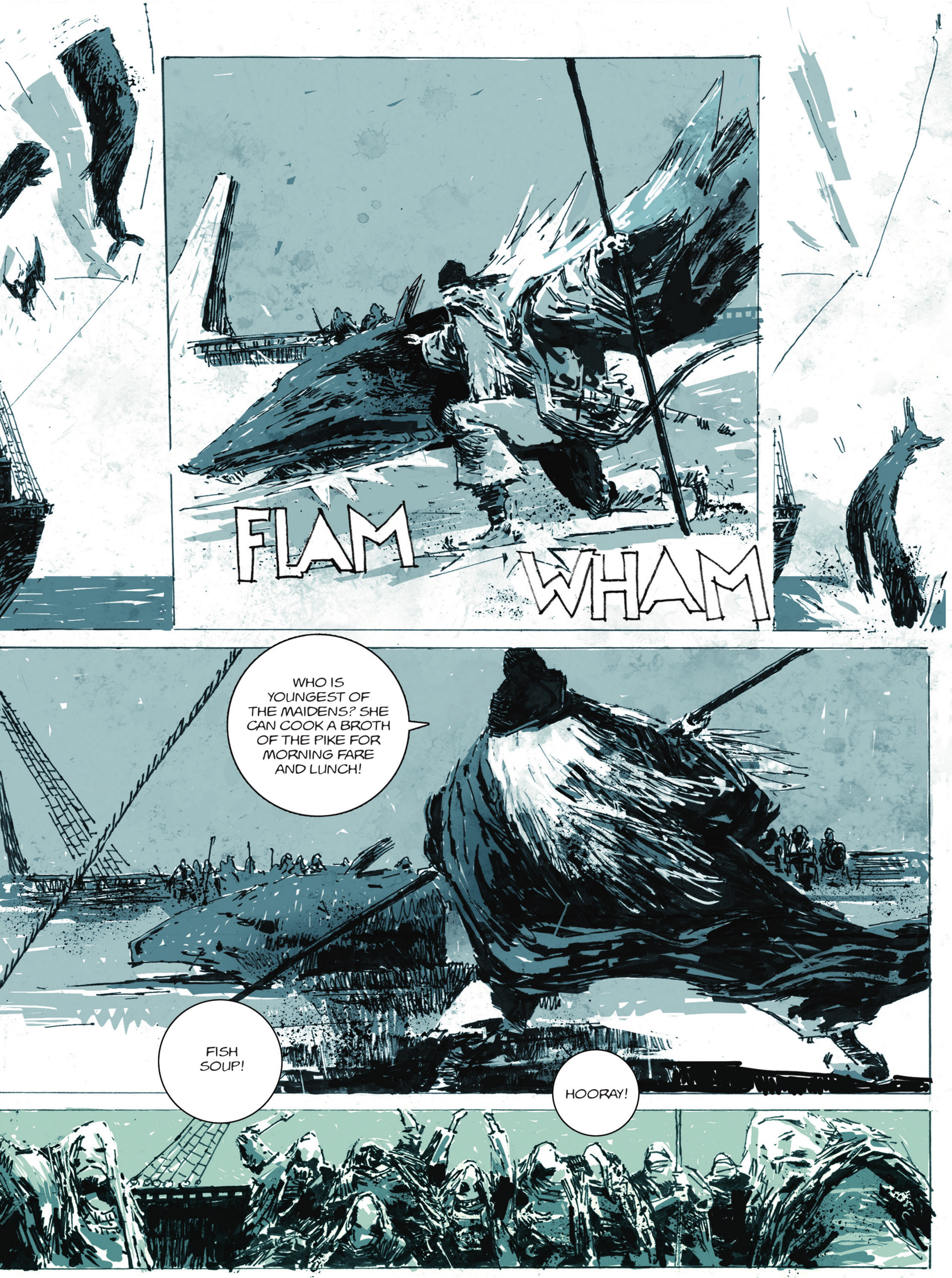

IT'S MEN. COLLAPSED ON THE ICE!
WHATEVER FOREST FOLK...
LIFT THE HEROES ONTO THE DECK.
LEMMINKÄINEN!
YOU SAVED US WRETCHES. OTHERWISE, WE WOULD BE NO MORE, TIERA AND ME. WHO ARE YOU?
NOW I RECOGNIZE THE HELMSMAN ALREADY: OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN, NEXT TO ILMARINEN HIMSELF! WHERE ARE YOU MEN BOUND?
WE ARE NORTHWARD BOUND, TOWARDS THE BIG RAPIDS. WE ARE GOING TO GET THE SAMPO FROM THE STONE MOUNTAIN OF POHJOLA.
OH MY, OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN, TAKE THIS MAN WITH YOU! I AM AS GOOD AS ANY MAN IF THERE IS NEED TO FIGHT. I WILL EMPOWER MY HANDS AND BRACE MY SHOULDERS.
WELCOME ONBOARD.

AAHRHH!!!
THE FERAL FROST DID NOT FELL ME, BUT DID I NEED THIS?
WWHHMMMSSSSS
HOLD THE HEAVING WILD WATER! MAID OF THE MIST, SISTER OF SPRAY, LET YOUR EMBRACE WITHHOLD THE WAVES!!
THOU THAT LIVEST IN THE SEA-FOAM! SWIMMING, RISE ABOVE THE WATERS! LIFT THY HEAD ABOVE THE WHIRLPOOL, GATHER WELL THE FOAM AND BILLOWS IN THINE ARMS AND STILL THEIR FURY!!!
RRUMBLE


HOORAY!!
HOORAY!!
HUMM...

THE SHIP IS STUCK.
THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE. WE ARE ALREADY IN CLEAR WATERS, PAST THE ROCKY WHIRLPOOLS.
LISTEN, YOU WILD SON OF LEMPI; DIVE DOWN TO SEE WHY THE SHIP IS JAMMED.
THE SHIP IS NOT ON A ROCK! BUT ON THE SHOULDERS OF A PIKE...

WHOOSH
HUP!
FLOTCH

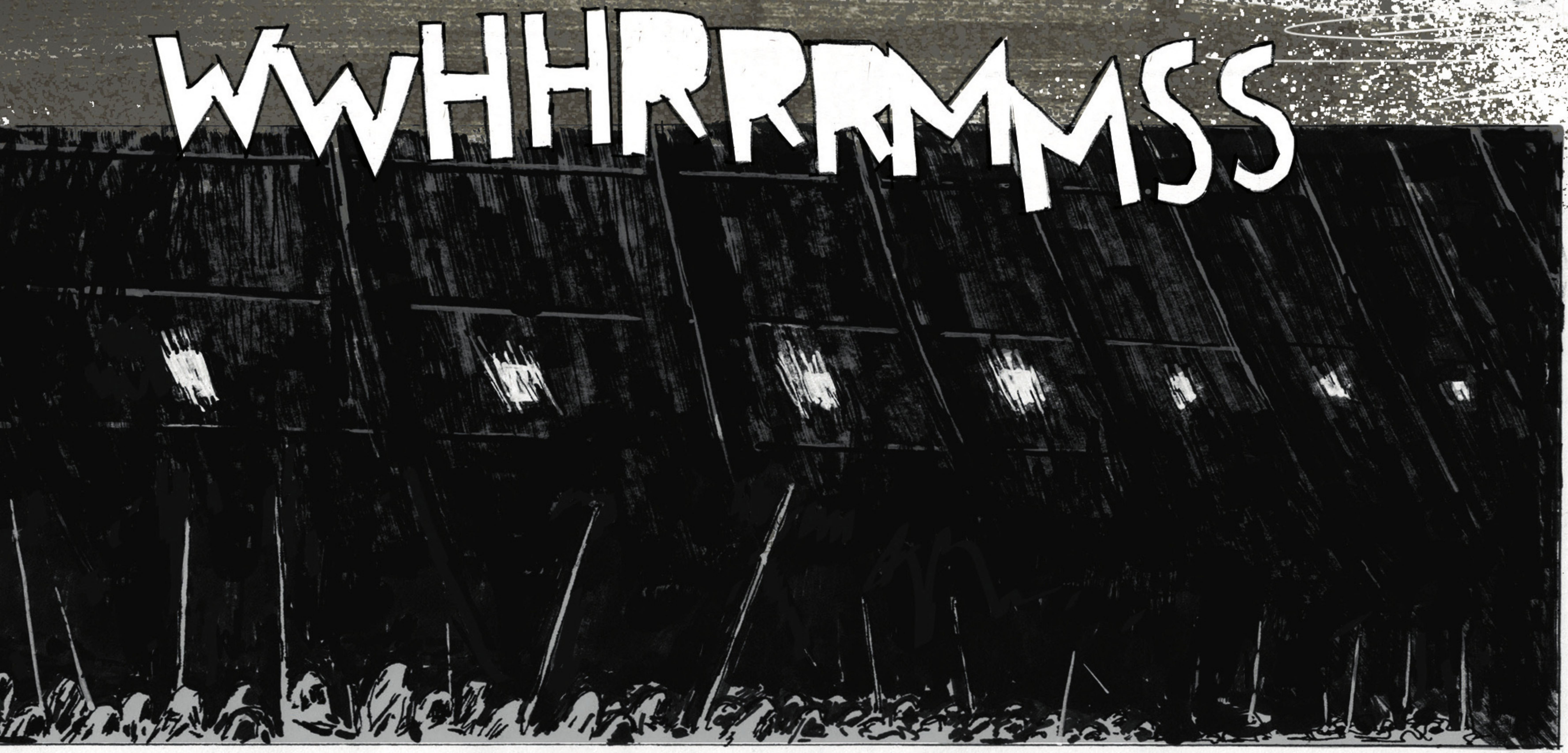

FLAM
WHAM
WHO IS YOUNGEST OF THE MAIDENS? SHE CAN COOK A BROTH OF THE PIKE FOR MORNING FARE AND LUNCH!
FISH SOUP!
HOORAY!

WHAT MIGHT BECOME OF THOSE PIKE TEETH AND BROAD JAWBONE...
...IN A FORGE, IN THE HANDS OF A SKILLFUL BLACKSMITH?
NOTHING COMES OUT OF NOTHINGNESS, A TOOL OUT OF A FISH BONE, IN A SMITHY.
BUT THESE COULD MAKE A FISHBONE KANTELE, IF ONLY THERE WAS A MAN WHO COULD MAKE ONE OF BONE.

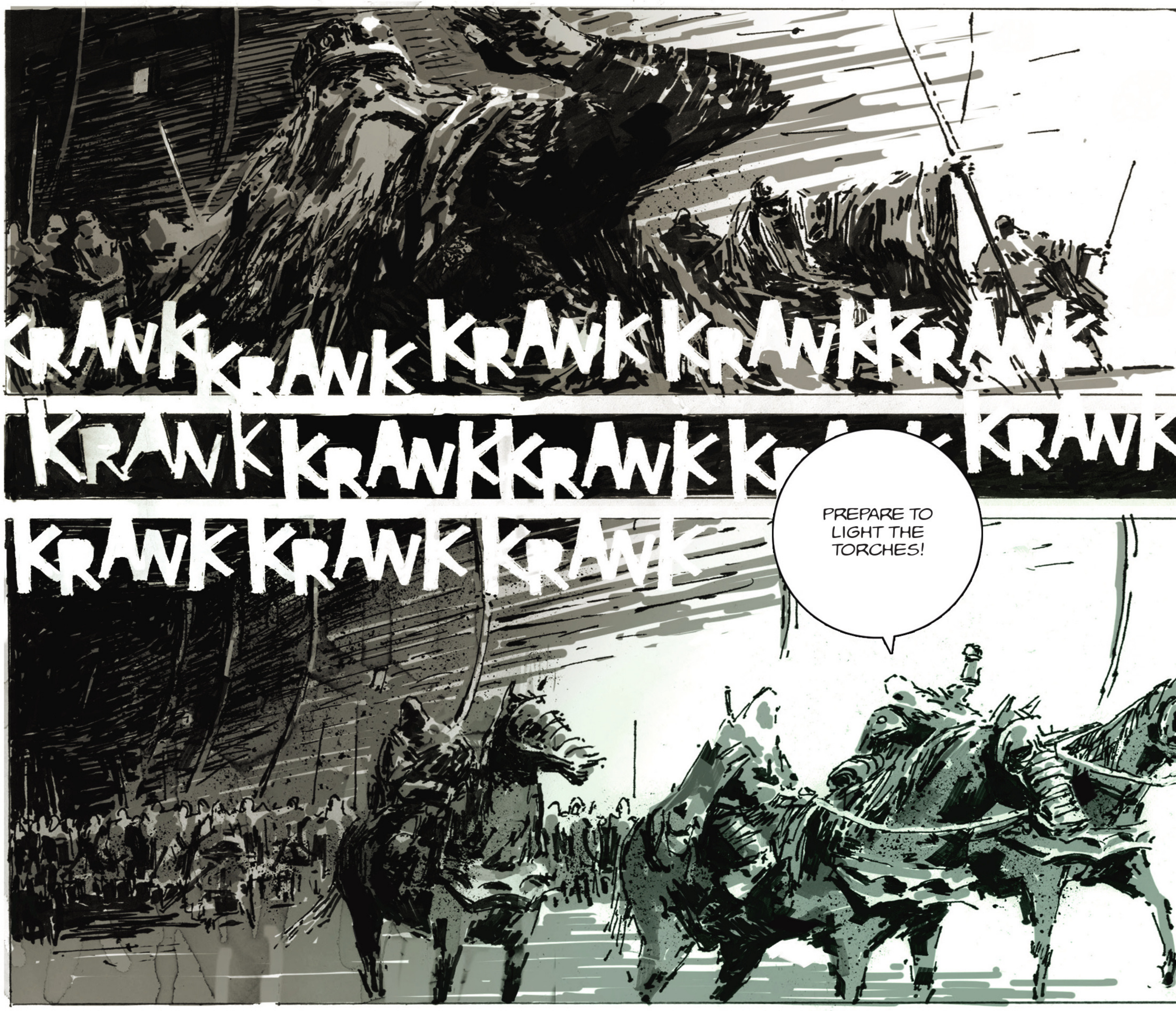
LET THEM COME AND LISTEN, WHO HAVEN'T HEARD THE JOY OF ANCIENT POEMS AND THE SWEET SOUND OF THE KANTELE.
There wasn't a single four-legged creature in the forest that did not come running to listen to Väinämöinen playing his bone kantele.
Squirrels bounced from branch to branch, ermine ran around. Elk leapt in the woods, with lynxes frolicking.

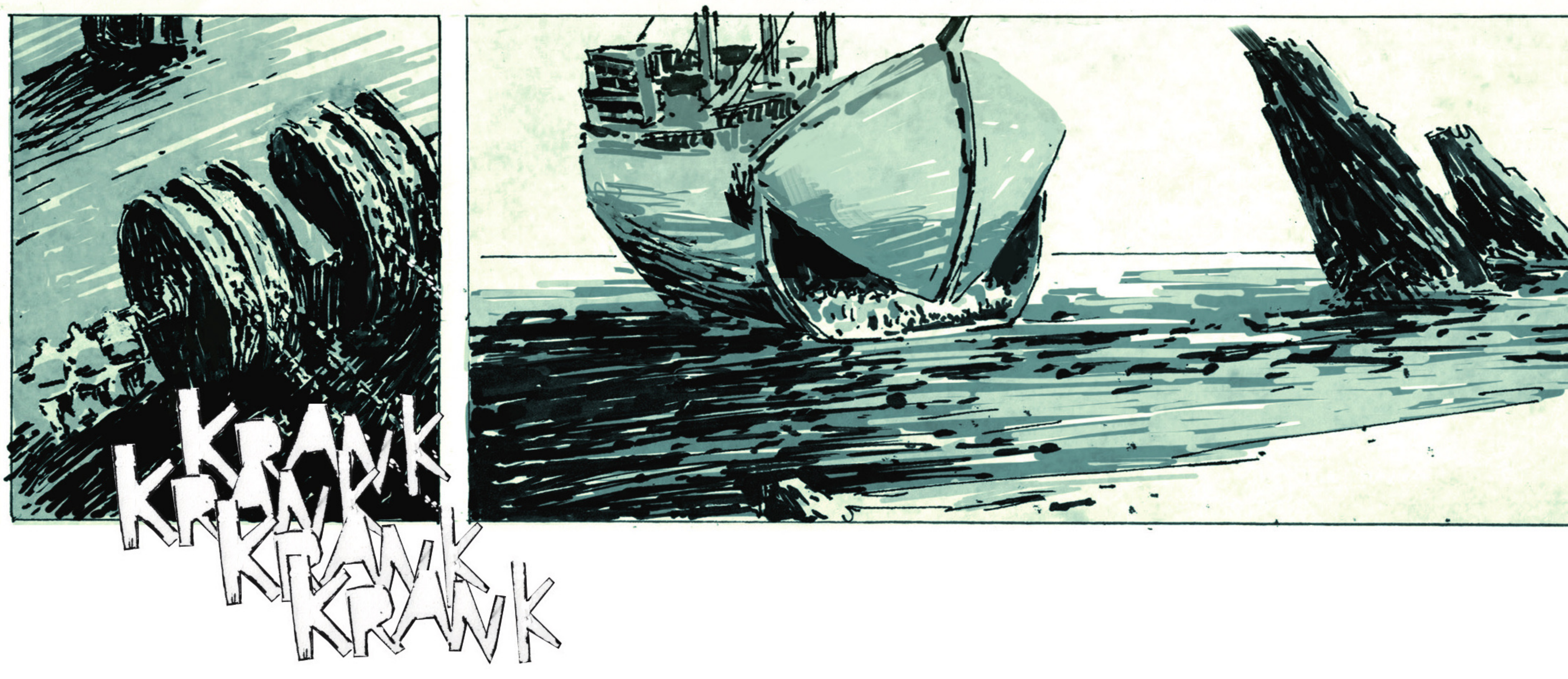
SO, EVERYTHING SHOULD BE CLEAR?
THE SAMPO IS HUGE. MOVING IT WILL BE HARD. BUT I TRUST IN WHAT YOU KNOW, OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN.
IF ONLY IT WAS TOMORROW EVENING. I CAN BARELY WAIT...
KULLERVO'S HORN. TAKE IT. IT WILL BE GOOD TO BLARE WHEN YOU WANT ATTENTION IN THE THROES OF BATTLE.

WWHHMMSS


WWHHRRRMMSS

KRANKKRANK

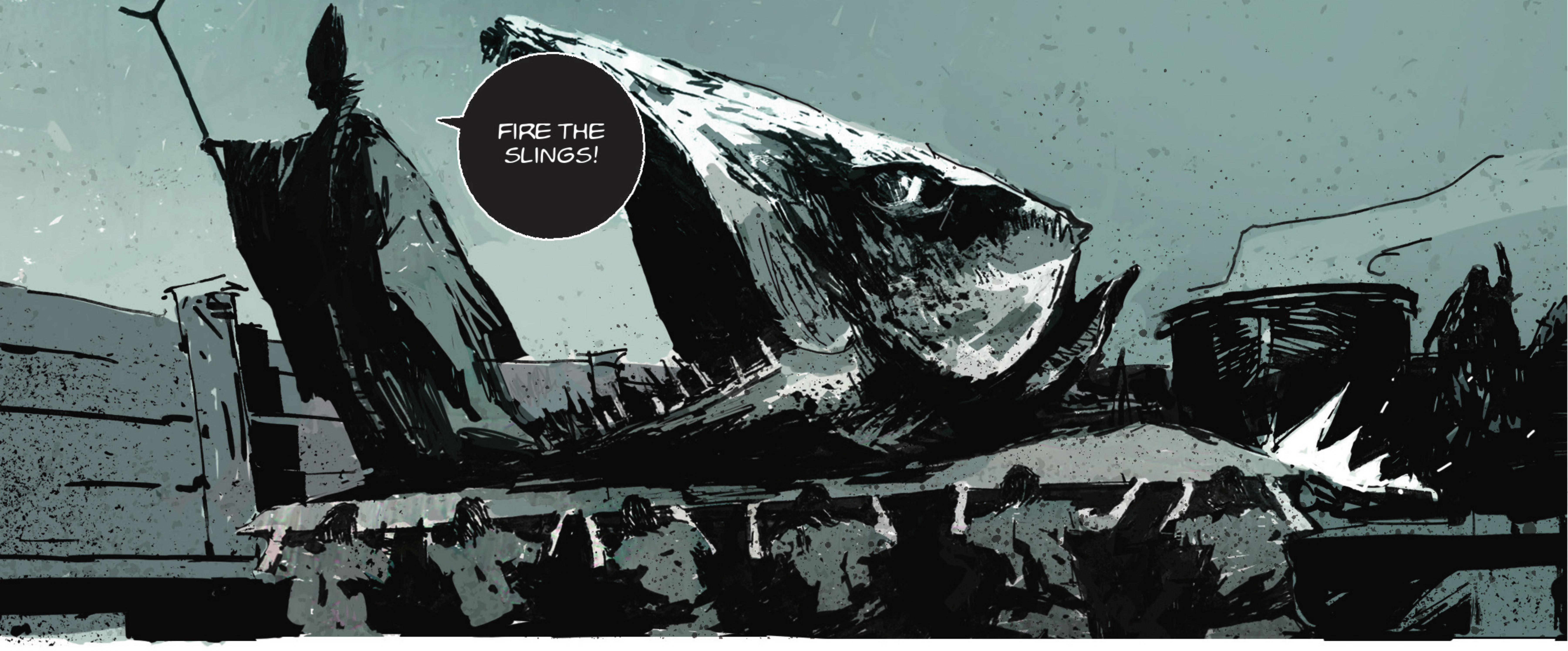

KRANK KRANK KRANK KRANK KRANK
KRANK KRANK KRANK KRANK KRANK
KRANK KRANK KRANK
PREPARE TO LIGHT THE TORCHES!

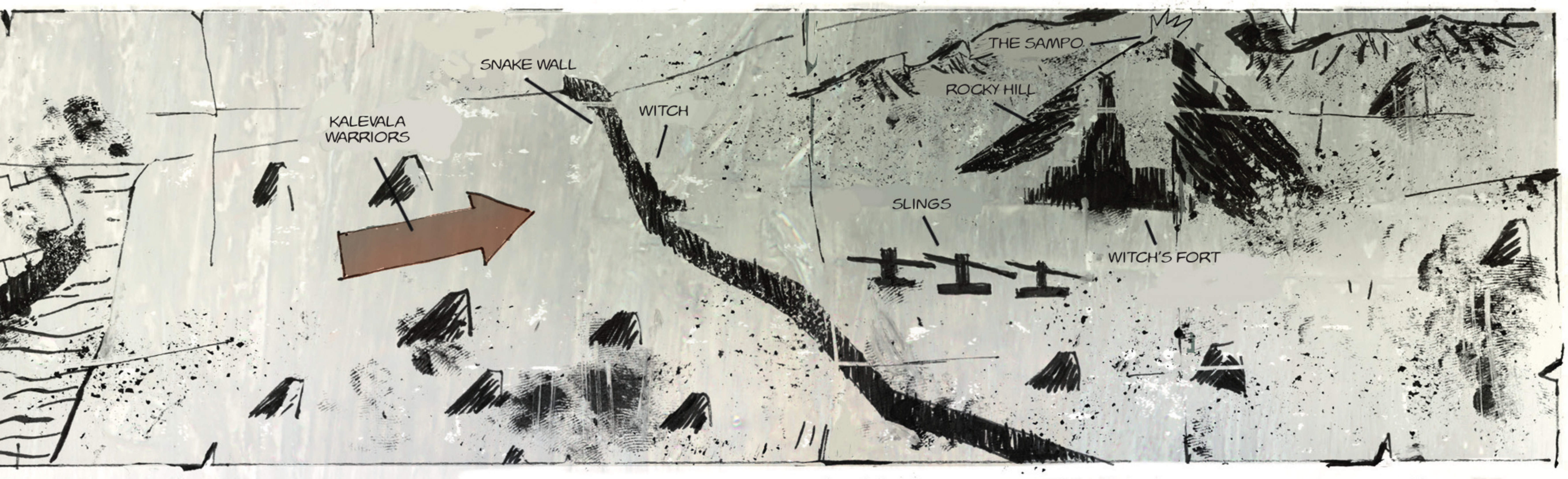

KRANK KRANK KRANK

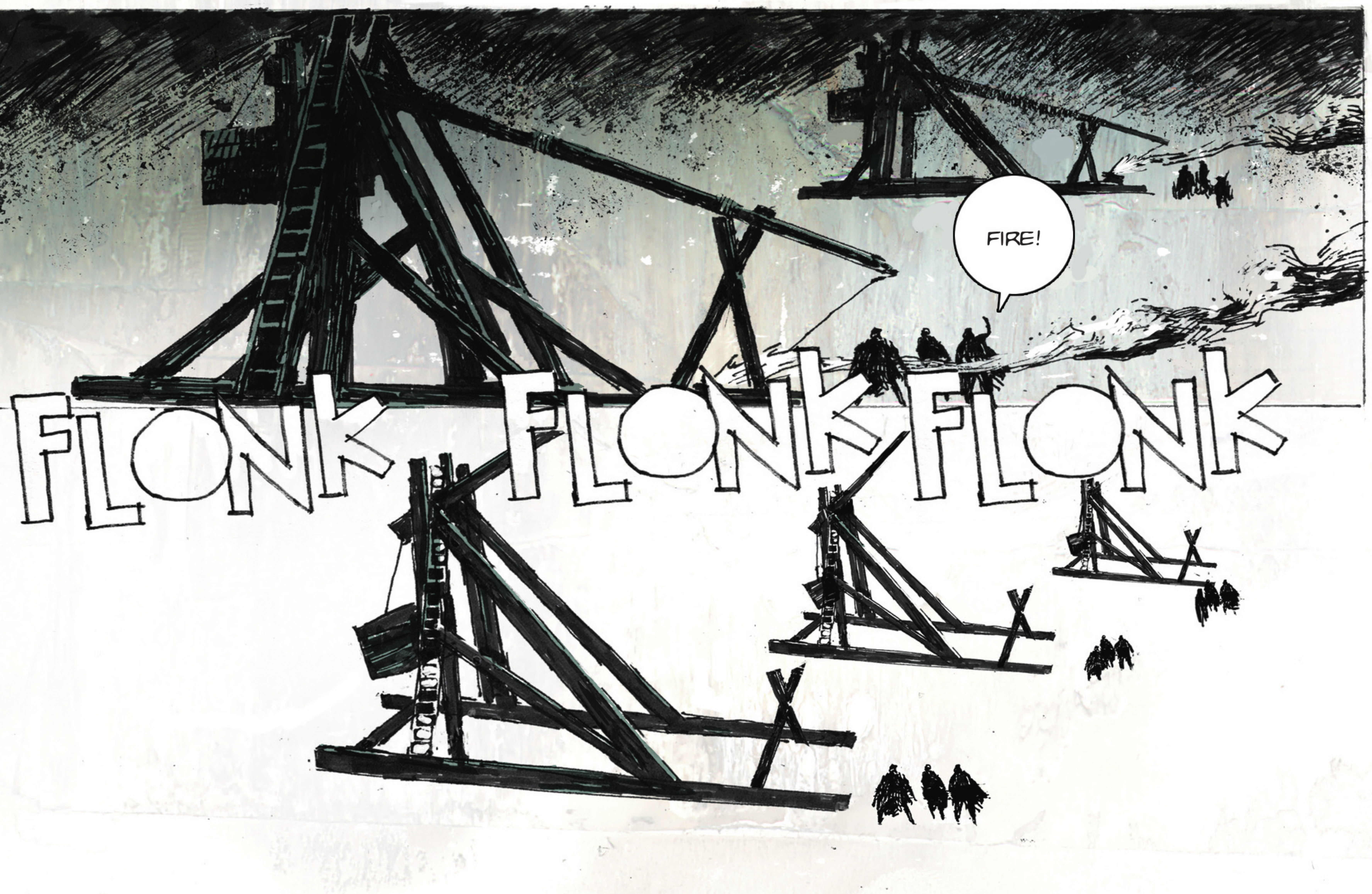
RRRRMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM
RRRRRMMMMMMMMMMMMMM
RRRRRRMMMM
RRRRMMMMMMMMMMMMM

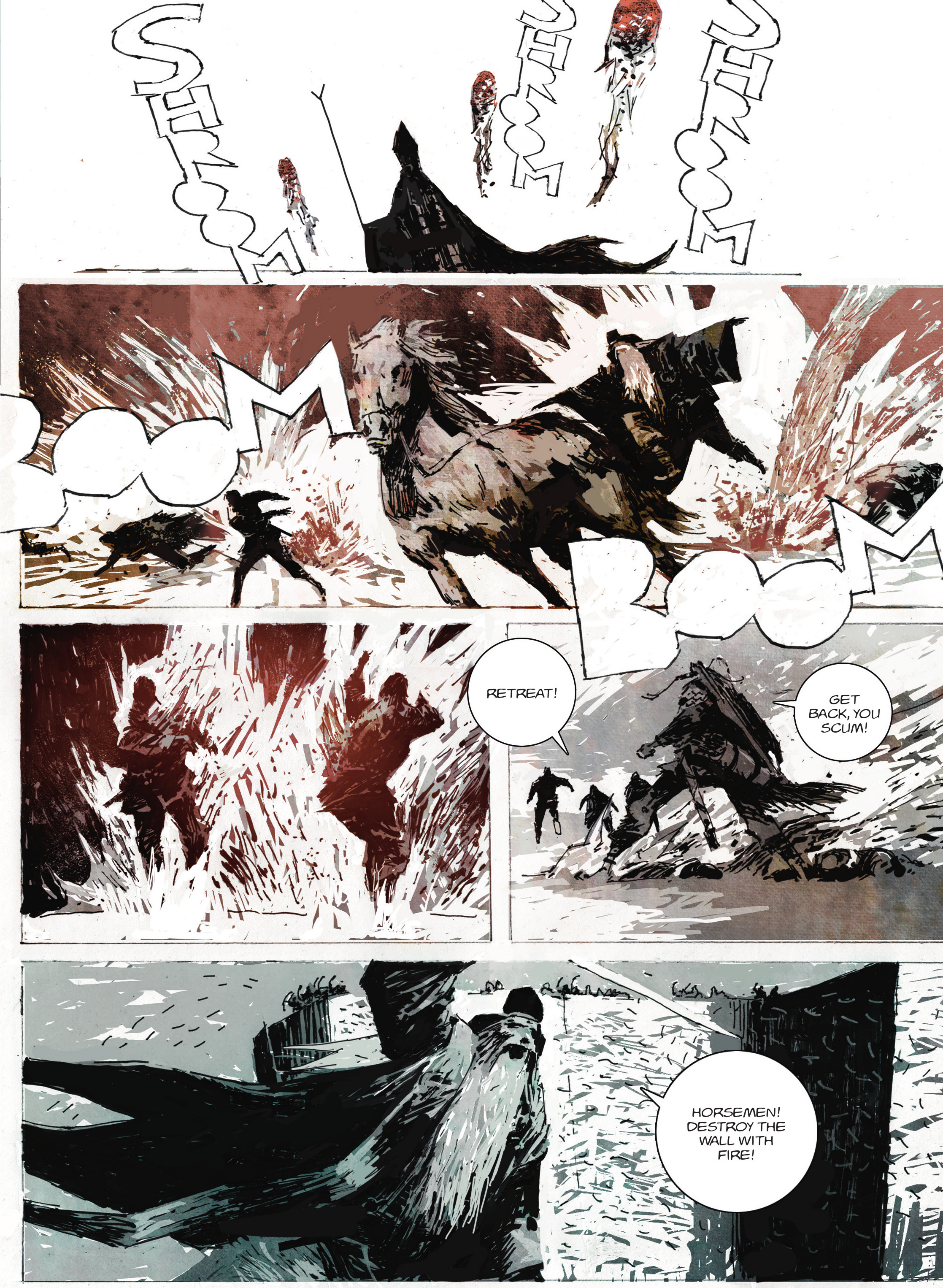
LOUHI!
WHAT BRINGS YOU MEN HERE?!

IT IS TO DO WITH THE SAMPO! WE CAME TO SHARE IT, TO CLAIM A PART OF ITS LID OF COLORS!
THE SAMPO HUMS HAPPILY IN THE STONE MOUNTAIN OF POHJOLA.
AND I FEEL GOOD MYSELF, BEING THE GUARDIAN OF THE GREAT SAMPO.
IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE SENSE TO GIVE US HALF, WE WILL TAKE IT ALL!


FIRE THE SLINGS!


KALEVALA WARRIORS
SNAKE WALL
WITCH
THE SAMPO
ROCKY HILL
SLINGS
WITCH'S FORT


FIRE!
FLONK FLONK FLONK


SHROOM
SHROOM
SHROOM
BOOM
BOOM
RETREAT!
GET BACK, YOU SCUM!
HORSEMEN! DESTROY THE WALL WITH FIRE!

HHAARRG!
KEEP THEIR HEADS DOWN!!

THW
THWIP THWIPTH
THWIP
WWHUUM
SSSSSSSSSSSS
UNDER THE COVER OF SMOKE... TO THE WALL!!
RRRRRAAAAA...

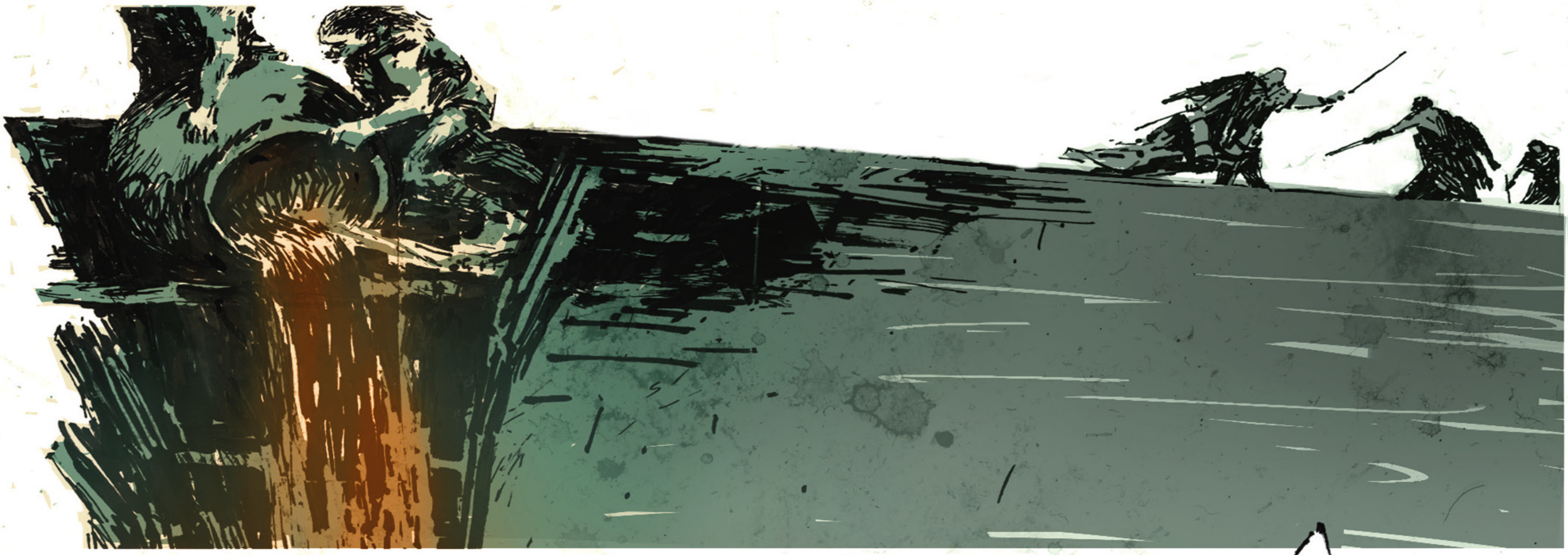
WHOOM
KRAK BRAK
THEY ARE TRYING TO QUENCH THE FIRE ON THE WALL!!
WALL BREAKER!
DEATH WILL TAKE US! HELKA HELP US!!
THUNK
THUNK

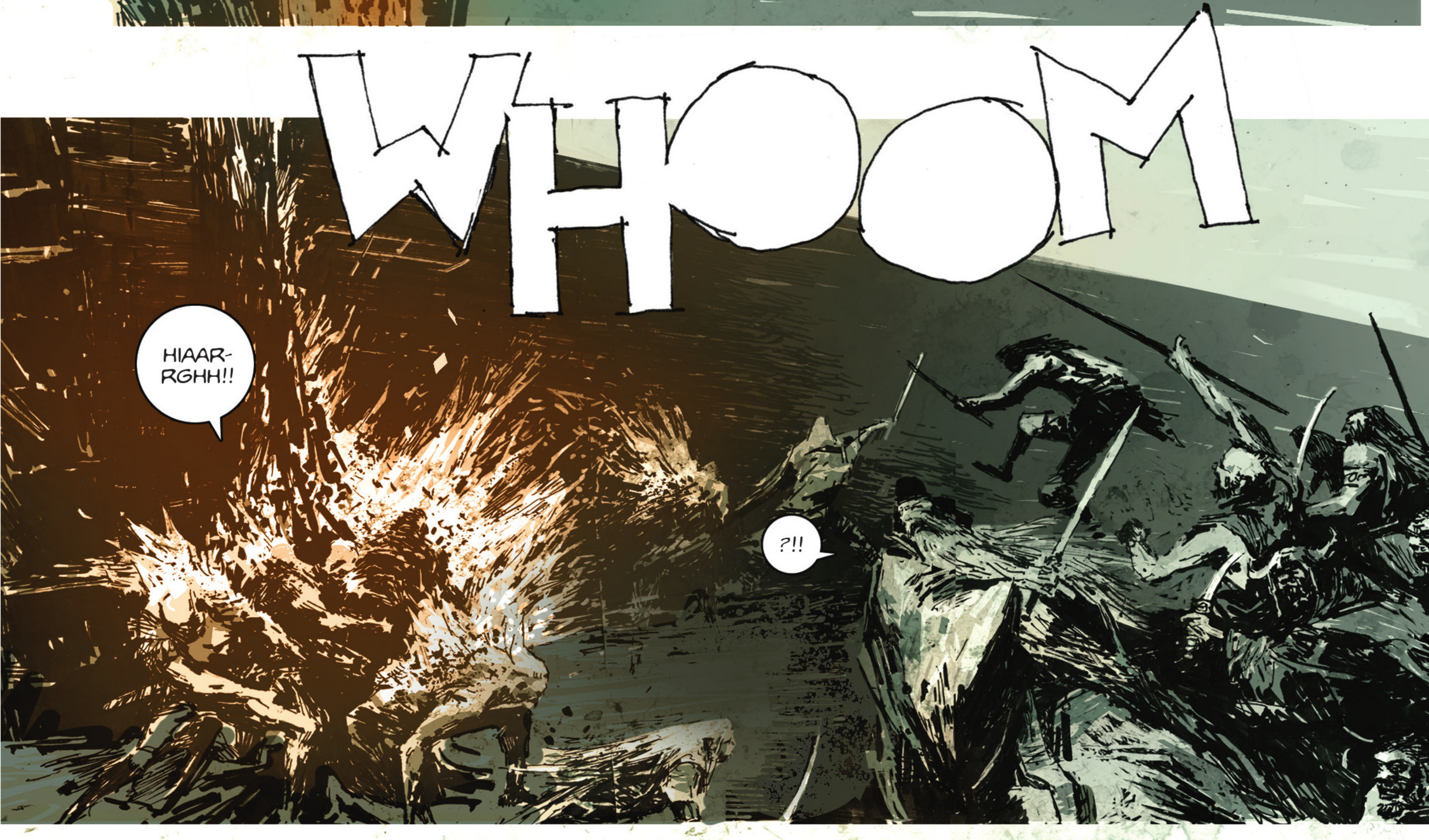
BOOM
BOOM
NOW!
KRAS

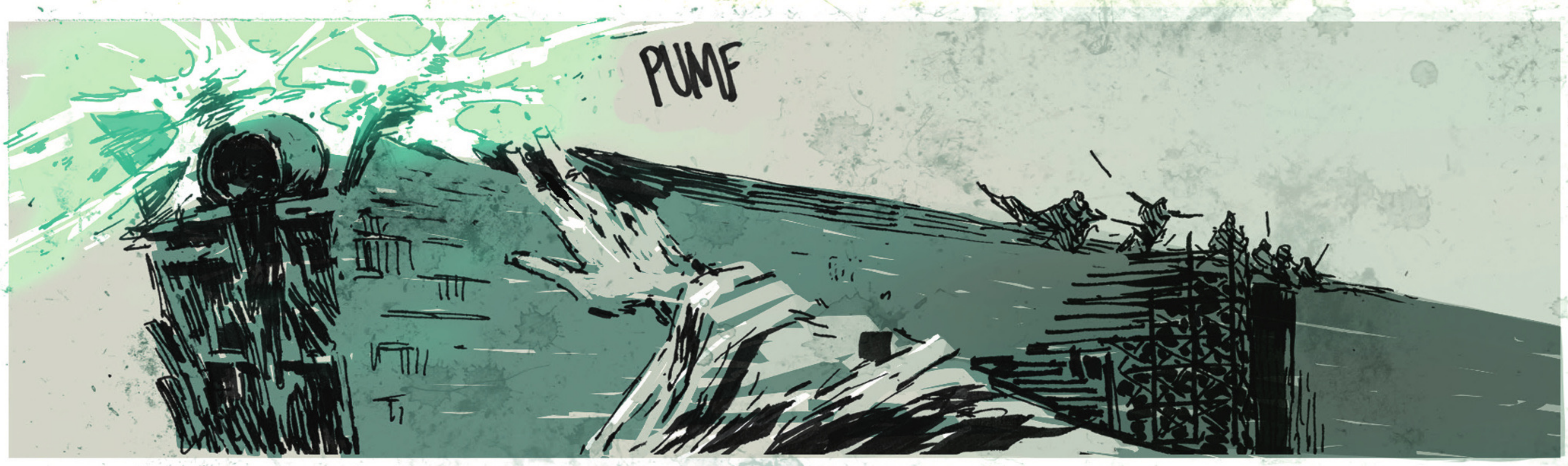
ONWARDS, SONS OF KALEVALA.

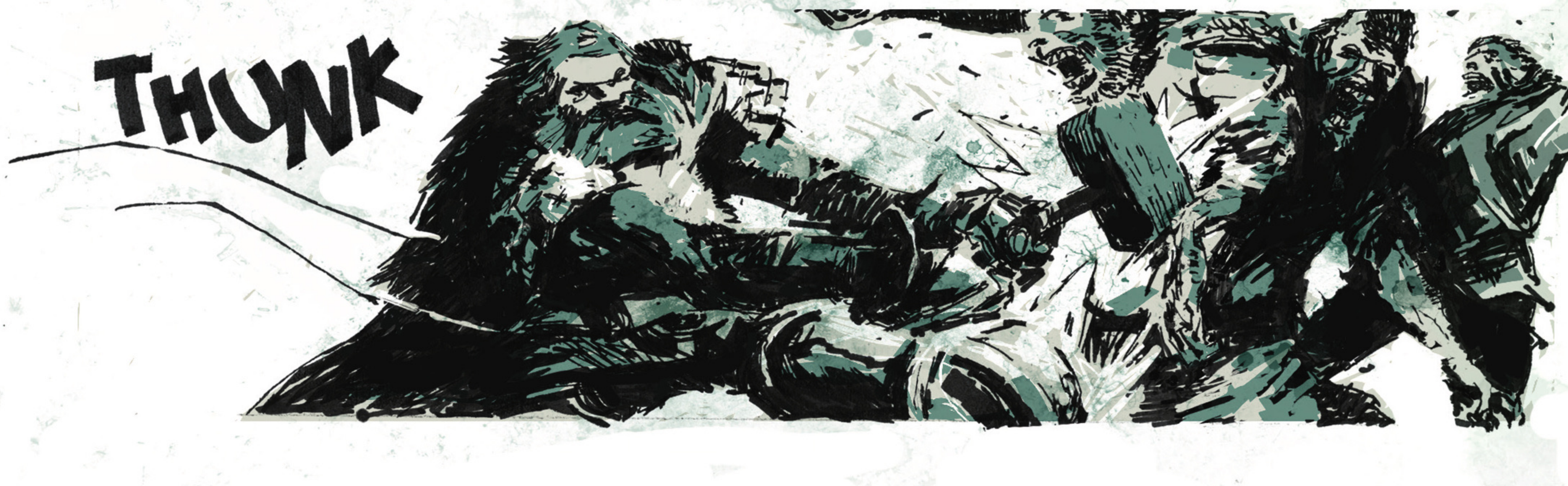
ZKLAN
THOOM

WHUM
CROK



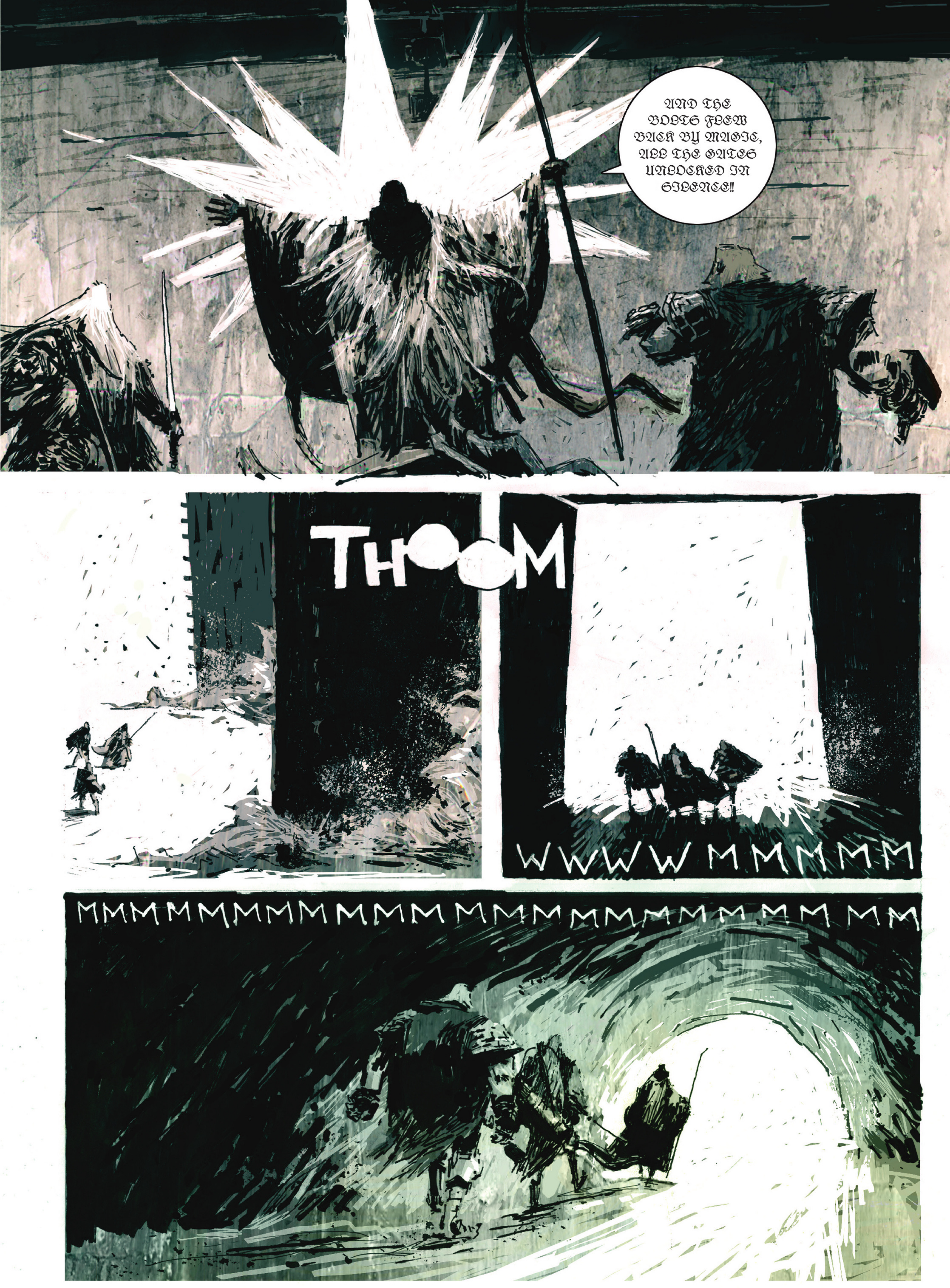

WHOOM
HIAAR-RGHH!!
?!!

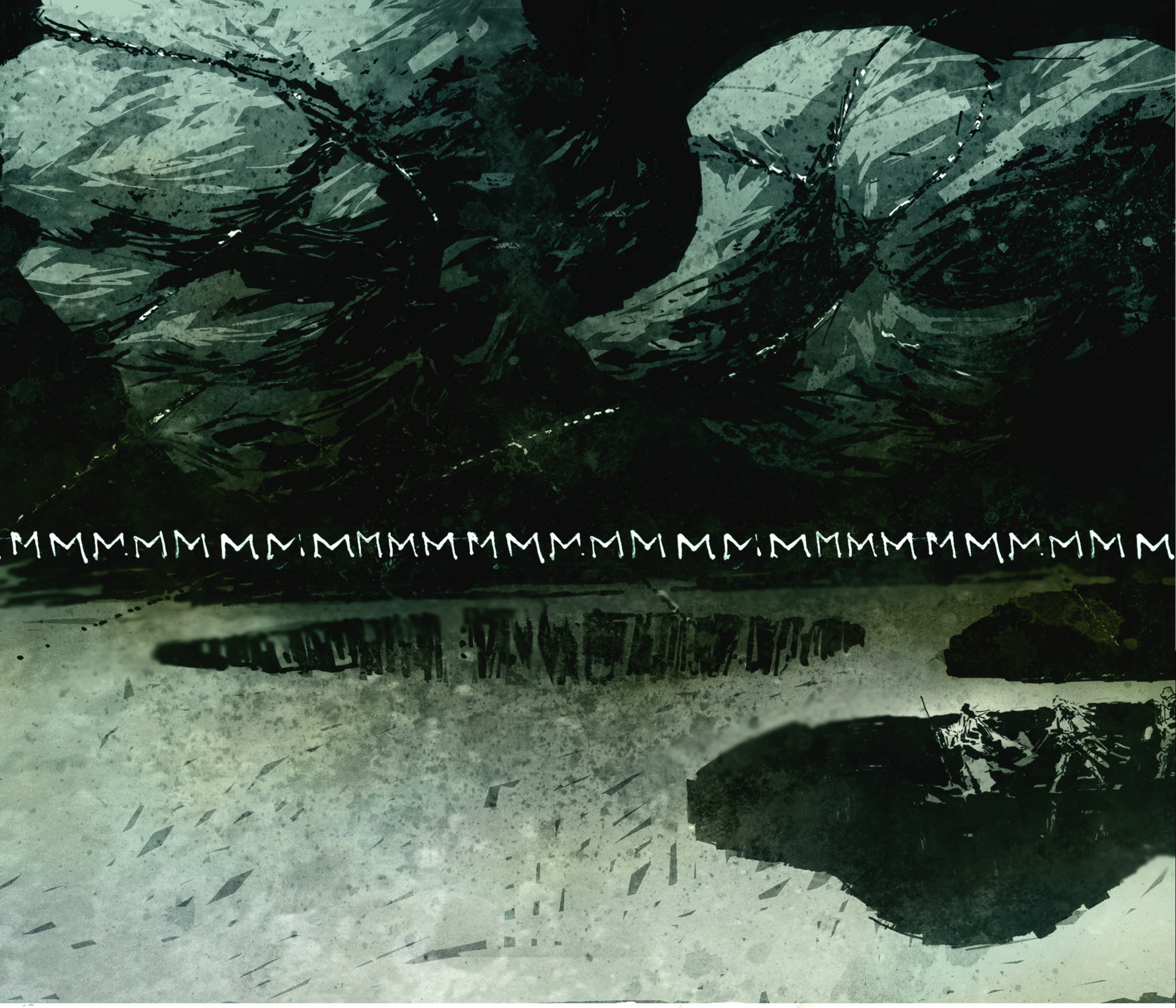

PUMF

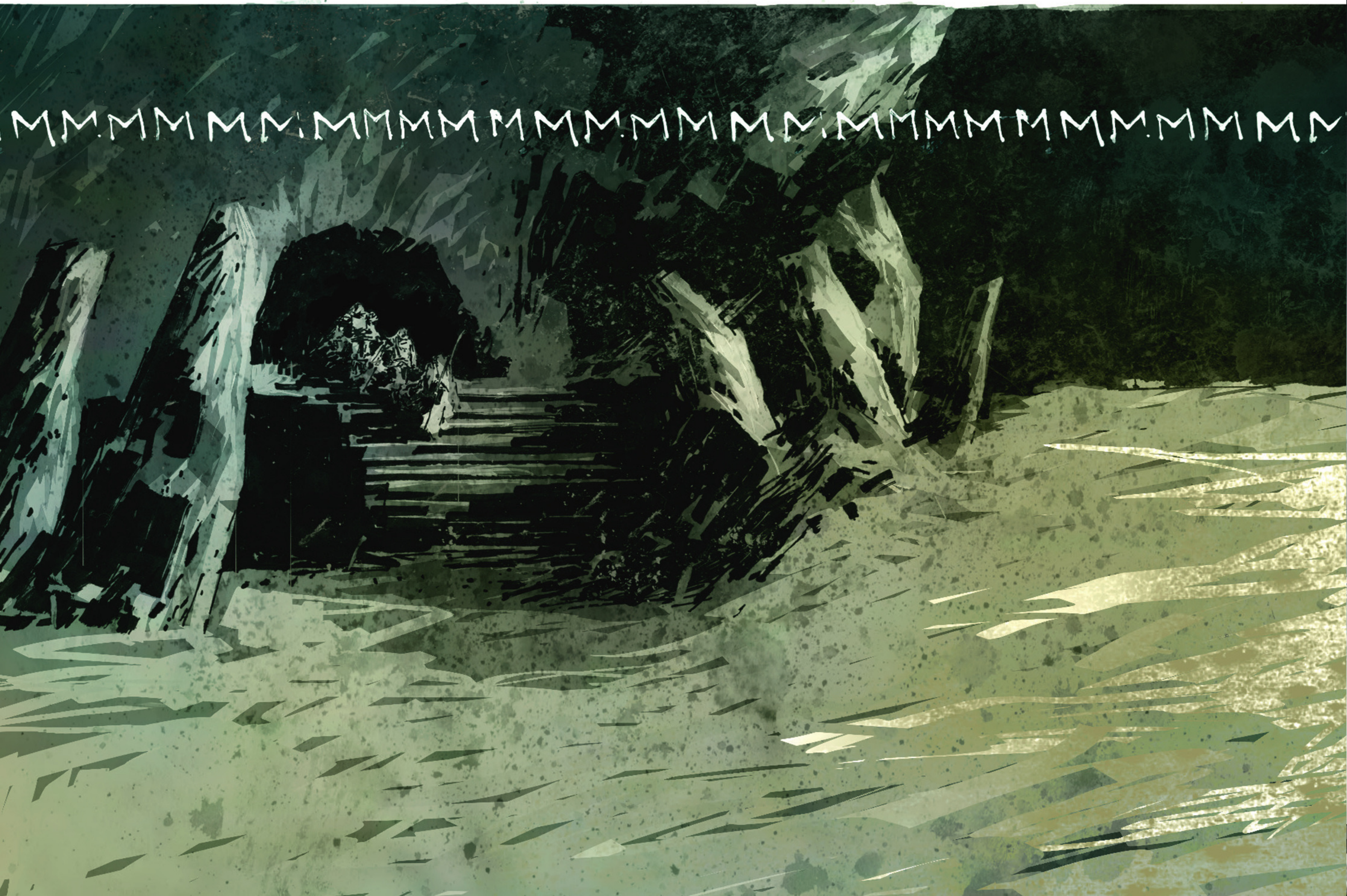

THUNK

RRAAA!!
THWOK
A SMALL GROUP MAY GET AROUND POHJOLA'S MEN UNDER COVER OF THE BOULDERS! ILMARINEN! LEMMINKÄINEN!
ZLANG PLANG

SHH...
SLICE
FLOK
KRANK
THOK
THUNK
THE DOOR IS HUGE AND COVERED WITH BOLTS. GREASE THE LOCKS, BLACKSMITH ILMARINEN. LET'S SEE IF IT OPENS WITH A SPELL.


AND THE BOLTS FLEW BACK BY MAGIC, ALL THE GATES UNLOCKED IN SILENCE!!
THOOM
WWWWMMMMM
MMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM


MMM.MMMMM:MMMMMMMMM.MMMMM:MMMMMMMMM.MMMM

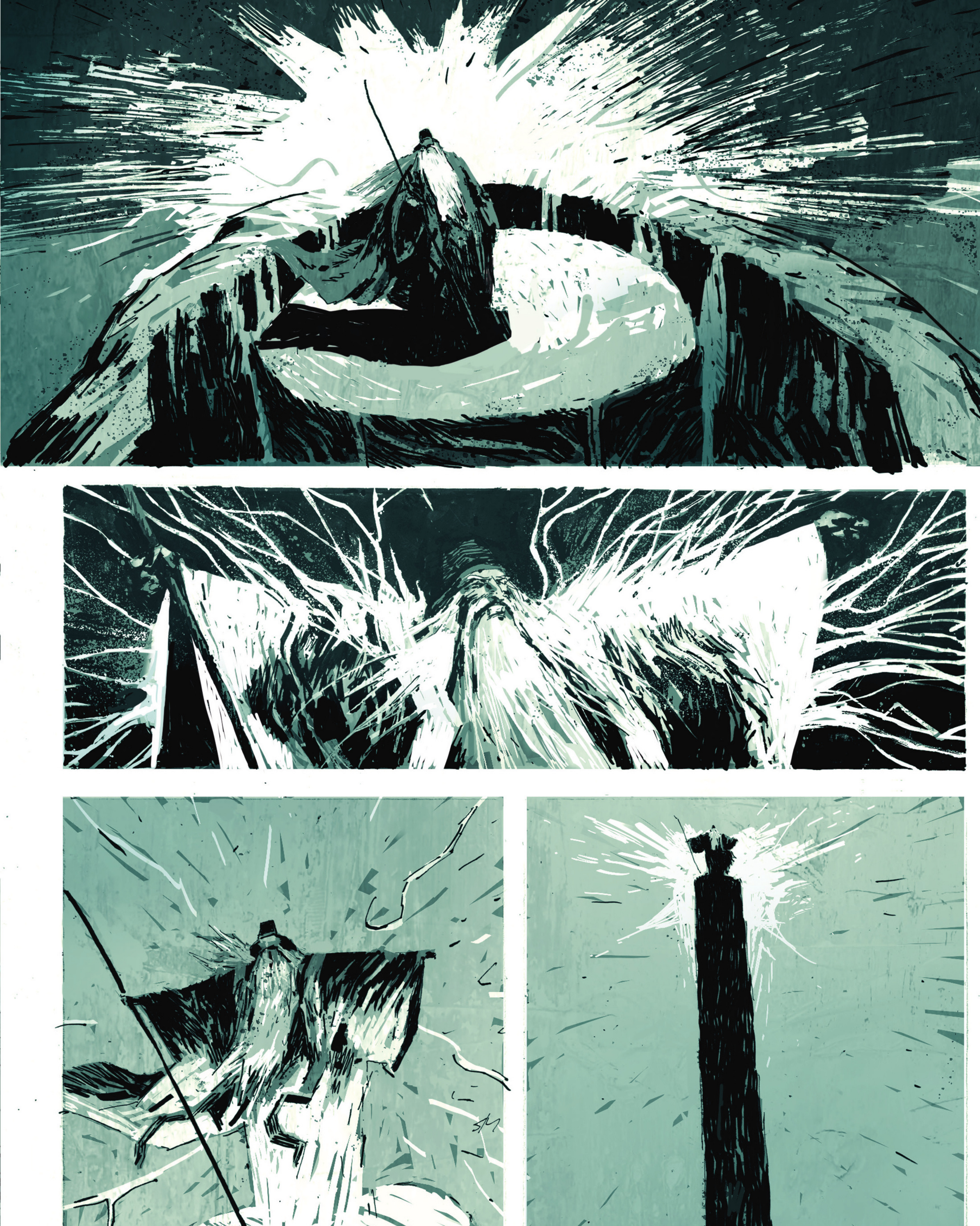

MM.MMMMM:MMMMMMMMM.MMMMM:MMMMMMMMM.MMMMM

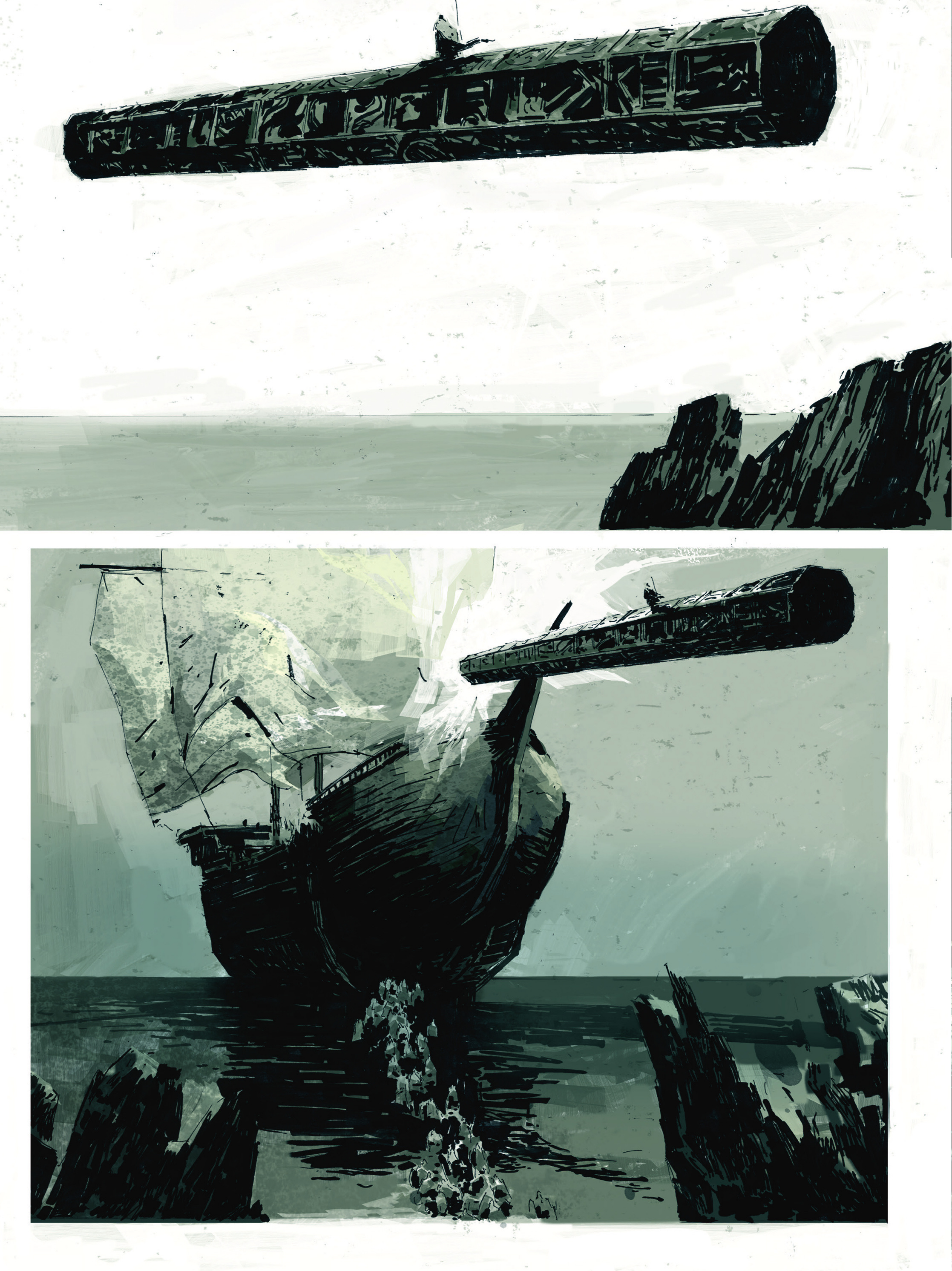
RADIEN ATZHIE... FUDNO... RUTU... MUBBEN OLMAI...
MAIIDE SIÄK KAK TUN STUORA PASSE SEIDE?

MMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM
THE SAMPO...
FIERCE SON OF LEMPI! RUN BACK TO THE WALL AND SOUND THE AGREED SIGNAL. IT IS TIME TO WITHDRAW TO THE SHIP!

WWWWMMMM
WHAT ABOUT THE SAMPO?
WHEN THEY REACH THE SHORE, THE SAMPO WILL ALREADY BE ON THE SHIP.
THUNK
THUNK

FOTWWW...
WE WON'T LAST LONG! WE WRETCHES WERE DOOMED WHEN WE SET OUT TO DO BATTLE IN THE DARKNESS OF POHJOLA!!
WHOK
TRROOOO
THE SIGNAL TO WITHDRAW!





OOOH...
OOOH...
LET'S GO!
PHOOM
WATER...

MOVING THE SAMPO TOTALLY EXHAUSTED OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN!
LET THE MAN REST. WE MUST LEAVE. THE POHJOLA MEN ARE COMING.
ANCHORS AWEIGH!

WHERE SHALL WE PUT THE SAMPO? WHERE CAN WE TAKE IT, AWAY FROM THESE EVIL LANDS?
LET'S TAKE IT TO THE POINT OF THE MISTY ISLAND. IT WILL BE FINE THERE FOREVER AND EVER.
THERE LIES A SPOT, A PIECE OF LAND, THE SWORDSMAN DOESN'T KNOW OF.
THE SAMPO HAS BEEN STOLEN!!
MAIDEN OF THE MIST, TERHENETÄR, SIFT A FOG ONTO THE BROAD SEA SO THAT VÄINÄMÖINEN CANNOT GET AWAY!!
SIFT THE THICK AIR FROM THE HEAVENS, SIFT THY VAPORS FROM THE ETHER!!!
IF THAT IS NOT ENOUGH, IKU-TURSO, RAISE YOUR HEAD FROM THE SEA! DESTROY THE MEN OF KALEVALA!
SINK THEM TO THY DEEP SEA-CASTLES! THERE DEVOUR THEM AT THY PLEASURE!!
HAHAHAHAHAAA

THE WITCH OF POHJOLA HAS CAST A FOG ONTO OUR ROUTE...
FOG WOULD NOT CONQUER THE WEAKEST OF MEN! NOW WE HAVE TIME TO REST.
THREE FULL NIGHTS ALREADY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BLUE SEA. NO GOING FORWARD, NO GOING ANYWHERE.
SHRING

WWH
HUUMMMM
UUMMMMM
WHAT NOW?! THIS LOOKS BAD...

!!!
HHRRROOOOOR
IKU-TURSO... WHY DID YOU RISE FROM THE SEA, IN FRONT OF THE SONS OF KALEVA?

AAIIAARRHH!!
PTOC
NO!
RELEASE ME!

KR
IKU-TURSO, LET THIS BE THE LAST TIME YOU EVER SURFACE FROM THE SEA TO FACE A MAN!
OOOM
HHRROOOOOO......

AND NOW THE WIND BEGINS TO HOWL AND THE HARSH WEATHER TO RAGE!
THOOM
PHOOOOOM
WOE IS ME, FOR SETTING OUT ON THESE HIGH WATERS, SHORELESS SEAS. RARELY HAVE I SEEN SUCH A GALE. WE MUST BEG SHELTER FROM THE WIND AND MERCY FROM THE WAVES.
THERE GOES MY FAVORITE KANTELE, LOST IS MY ETERNAL JOY!
THOOM

WATER, FORBID YOUR SON AHTI, TEMPER THE WAVES, VELLAMO, WATER FOLK, KEEP THE SPRAY OFF THE GUNWALES!
WIND, RISE TO THE SKY, RISE UP TO THE CLOUDS!!
BEND THE LINDENS OF THE VALLEY, LET OUR VESSEL SAIL IN SAFETY!!
WE NEED TO RAISE THE RIMS, SO THE WAVES WON'T WASH OVER US!
THE WITCH OF POHJOLA IS FORMIDABLY STRONG; SHE HAS PUT A CURSE ON US AND OUR ROUTE.
SHE IS BECOMING VERY STRONG... MAYBE EVEN STRONGER THAN VIPUNEN.
WHO KNOWS WHAT THE WITCH WILL THINK OF NEXT...
SON OF LEMPI! CLIMB THE MAST AND CHECK THE ROUTE AHEAD!
ARE THE HORIZONS CLEAR OR CROWDED?
THE BARQUE OF POHJOLA IS COMING, HUNDRED-OARED, BEATING THE WAVES!

WE ARE IN DANGER! BUT THERE IS STILL ONE WAY.
LET A ROCK RISE UP.
LET A ROCK ARISE IN WATER!!!
CCRKAAASH

NNNNN-NOOO!!
KKERRAAANNNGGG
CAST YOUR EYES NORTHWEST, GLANCE A BIT BEHIND YOU!

KRAASS
KEEP US SAFE, OH, MIGHTY CREATOR, PROTECT US, DEAR GOD...
OHOH, MISTRESS OF POHJOLA! SO, YOU COME TO SHARE THE SAMPO?

DOWN MEN, DOWN SWORDS, DOWN YOU WITLESS WARRIORS!
UNGH!
NO!

KRA-THOOM

RHWUM
I WILL GET MY REVENGE YET!!
RHWUM
I WILL KILL KALEVALA WITH A RAMPANT DISEASE, FELL ALL YOUR PEOPLE, SO THAT NEVER WILL IT BE MENTIONED ANYMORE!
I WILL NOT BE CRUSHED BY A TURJAN OR THE SPELLS OF A LAPP WITCH!
SKRRIIEE

Louhi did not forget her curse, but raised the dark daughter of tuoni, the source of all misery.
LOVIATAR... BRINGER OF DOOM.
REVENGE OF POHJOLA

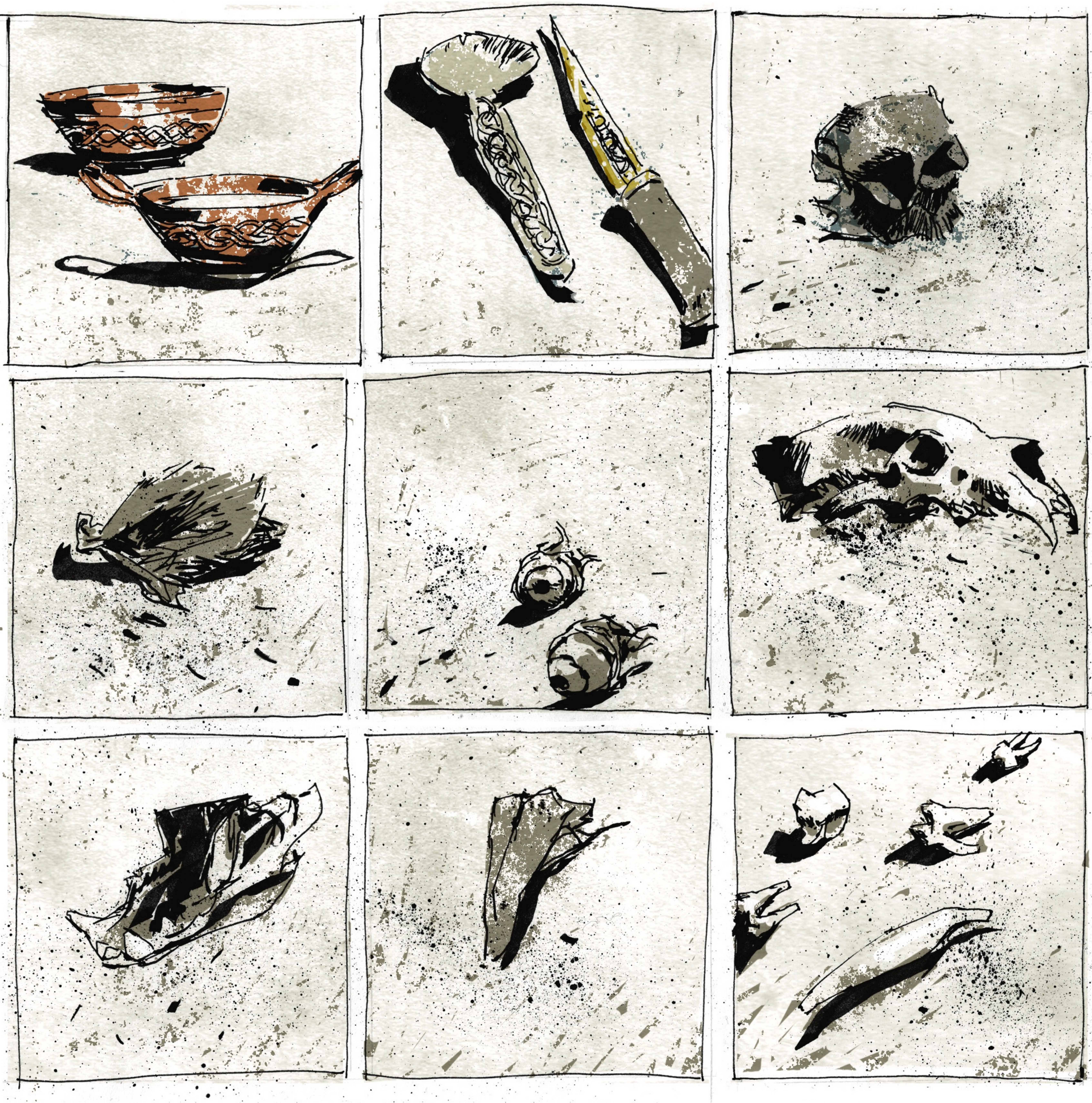
MADERAKKA, TAKE BURBOT SLIME AND SPREAD IT BETWEEN HER BONES, DELIVER THE WOMAN OF HEAVY PAINS.
TAKE THE GOLDEN SCEPTRE IN YOUR RIGHT HAND AND USE IT TO REMOVE BARRIERS, BREAK DOWN PORTALS!
..Gohh
YET ANOTHER BAD-TEMPERED BABY.

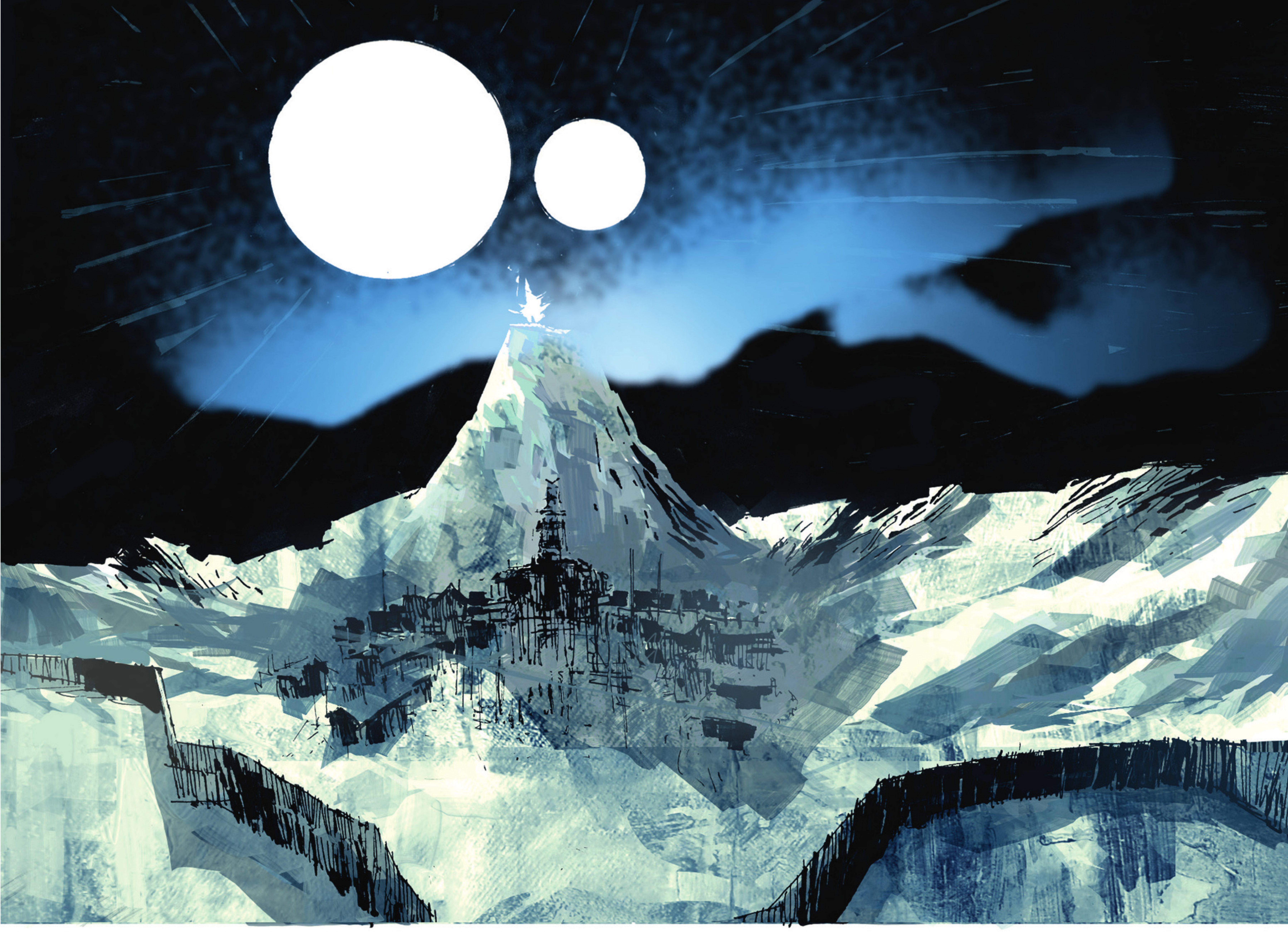
I WILL NAME YOU.
CONSUMPTION
COLIC
GOUT
RICKETS
ULCER
SCAB
CANCER
PLAGUE
GO TO THE TIP OF THE MISTY POINT, TO SLAY THE KALEVALA FOLK.
HAHAHAHA

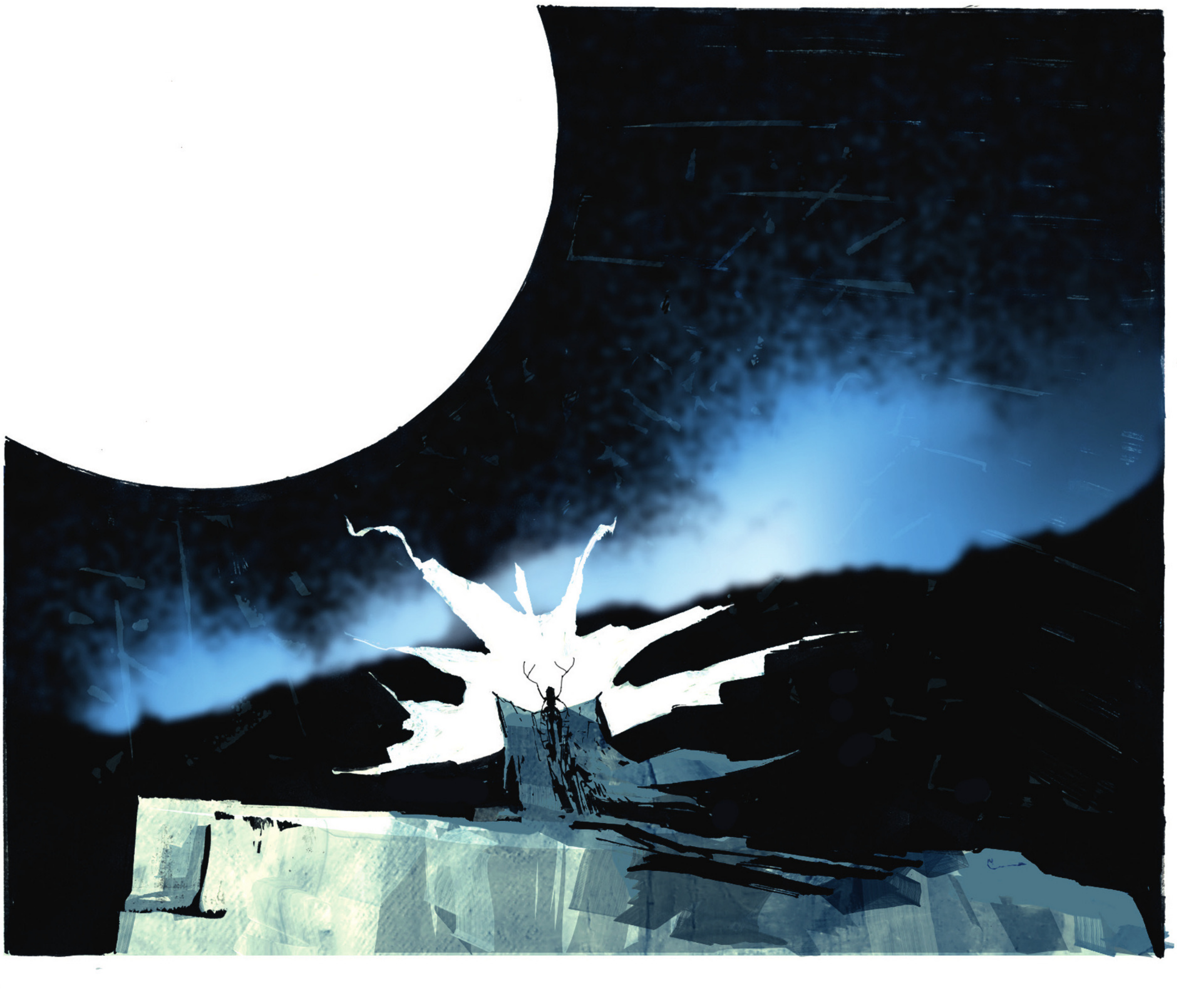
THE WITCH HAS CAST A POX UPON US.
ON PAIN MOUNTAIN, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE HILL, THERE IS A STONE WITH A HOLE BORED THROUGH THE CENTER.
LET THE WATER I CAST ON THESE HOT ROCKS TURN INTO NECTAR!
SSSSSSS
WE WILL NOT BE KILLED BY THE WITCH'S AILMENTS.
INTO STONE WE SLING THE SORENESS, PACK THE POTENT PAINS.
SO, NOUGHT CAN THEY DO BY NIGHT, NOWHERE REACH BY DAY.

LOUHI KNOWS THAT KALEVALA HAS FREED ITSELF OF THE HORRIBLE AILMENTS.
THE WITCH WILL USE OTHER MEANS...
I WILL RAISE THE BEAR FROM THE WILDWOODS! THE GREAT BEAR WILL MAUL KALEVALA'S CATTLE!
BLACKSMITH ILMARINEN, MY BROTHER, FORGE ME A THREE-SIDED SPEAR WITH A COPPER SHAFT! THERE IS A BEAR TO FELL...
SLEEP AGAIN, TARFOK.

LEIB-OLMAI, HUNTER, WHERE DID YOU TAKE YOUR KILL?
MAYBE YOU LEFT IT ON THE ICE, SANK IT IN THE SWAMP, OR BURIED IT IN THE FOREST EARTH!
I DID NOT LEAVE IT ON THE ICE...
I HUNG IT ON A HUNDRED-NEEDLED PINE TREE, AS A MEMENTO FOR WANDERERS.
GUMS FACING EAST AND EYES NORTH-EAST.





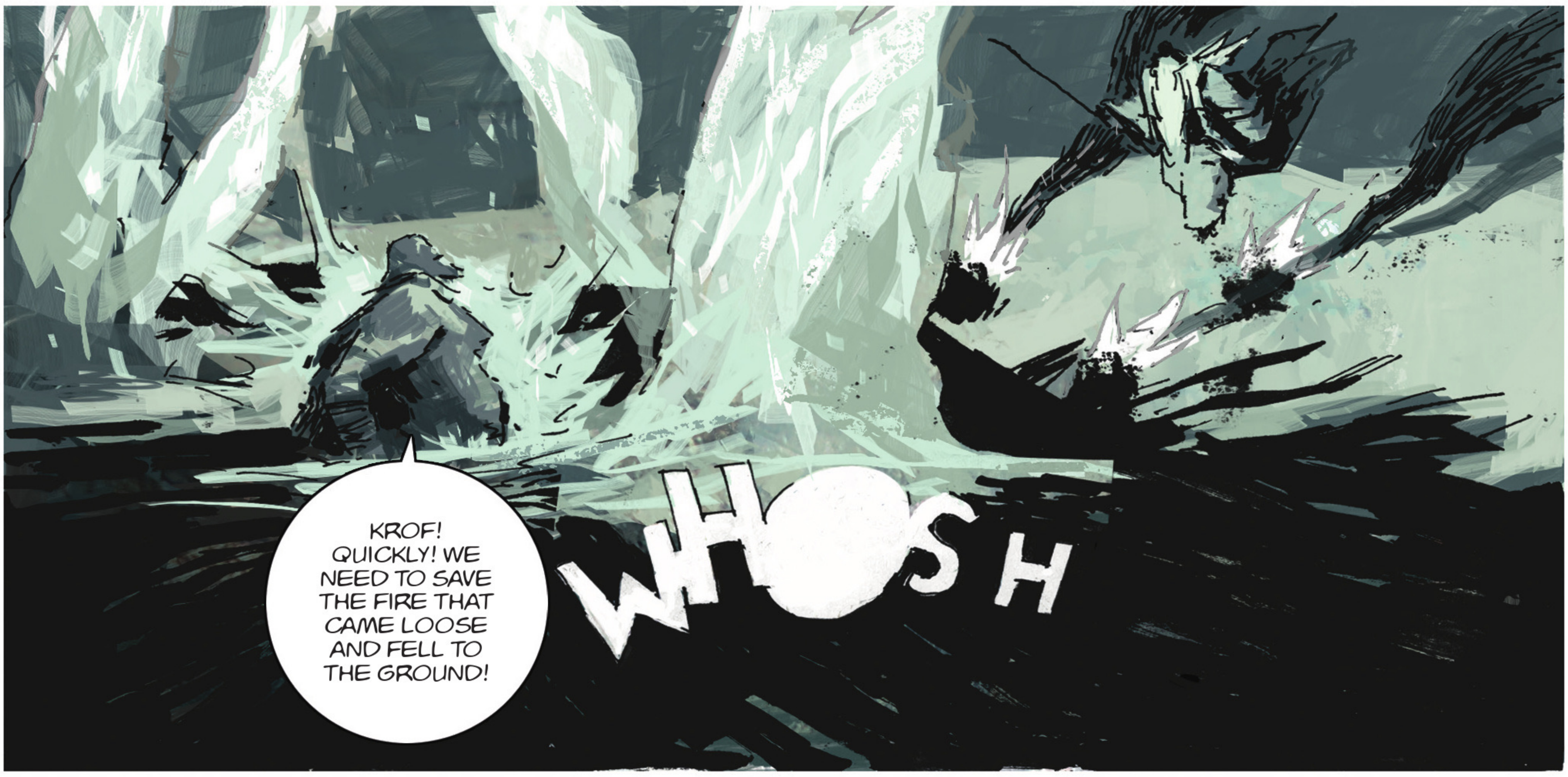


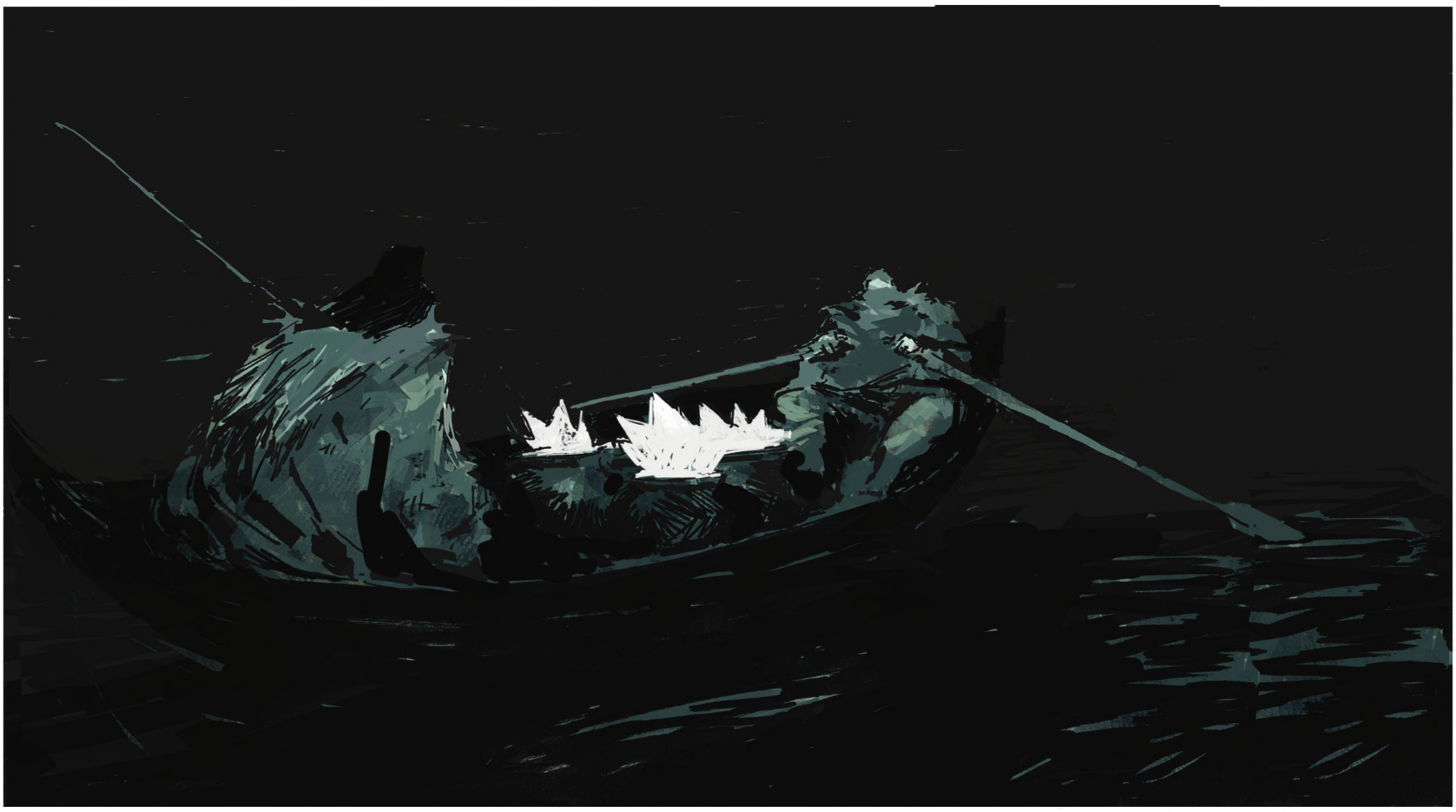
IT IS GETTING COLD, AND NO ONE CAN STRIKE A FIRE. THIS IS THE END OF THE WORLD!
NOAIDI IS MIGHTIER THAN I HAD EVER BELIEVED. THE SUN AND THE MOON... AND THE FIRE ALL STOLEN!

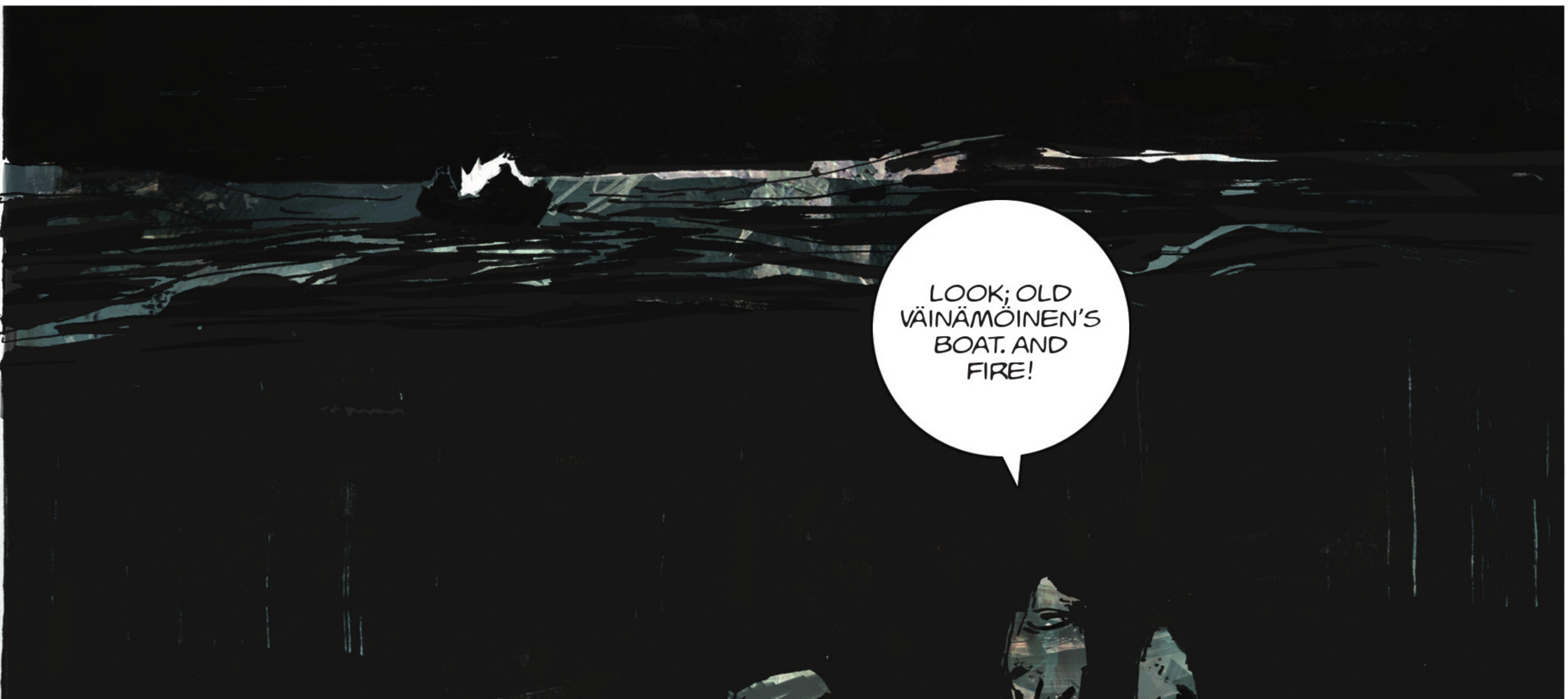
PFUMF
SSSFOOOOOOR
ILMARINEN! LET'S GO AND SEE WHAT THAT STRANGE FIRE THAT FELL DOWN WAS! COULD IT BE THE HALO OF THE MOON OR A FIREBALL FROM THE SUN?
PFOOOOOM

IT WENT THROUGH HERE.
SUCH HEAVY CAULDRONS, THESE!
IT'S EASY TO TAKE THE FIRE HOME, TO MISTY ISLAND POINT, IN THESE IRON CAULDRONS.
IT IS GETTING LIGHTER... WARMER. WE MUST BE NEAR.
THERE! THE TREES STOPPED THE FIREBALL ON ITS PATH! THAT WILL GIVE US FIRE FOR KALEVALA!
CAREFUL, SO IT DOESN'T BURN US!
KRA

KRAAA
!!!
THUNK
AARRGGH!!
SHHOOOM
AAAA!


KROF! QUICKLY! WE NEED TO SAVE THE FIRE THAT CAME LOOSE AND FELL TO THE GROUND!
WHOSH




LOOK; OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN'S BOAT. AND FIRE!

RAHKOI HAS ECLIPSED THE MOON!!
IT'S BAD WITHOUT MOONLIGHT, STRANGE, WITHOUT SUNSHINE.
THE GRAIN SUFFERS FROM THE COLD... AND EVEN THE BIRDS ARE BAFFLED!
IT IS TIME TO EXAMINE THE ORACLES. WE HAVE TO ASK FOR A SIGN, WHERE THE SUN ENDED UP, WHERE THE MOON DISAPPEARED. WHERE THE WITCH HID THEM.

TELL US, WOODCHIP, THE REAL REASONS, WITHOUT MOLLIFYING MAN'S MIND! BY YOUR ACTIONS SPEAK THE TRUTH!
IF THE CHIP LIES, ITS VALUE WILL BE LESSENED, AND IT WILL BE THROWN INTO THE FIRE, THE INFORMER BURNED.
I GUESSED THIS WAS THE CASE! THE SUN AND THE MOON HAVE BEEN TAKEN INSIDE THE STONY MOUNTAIN OF POHJOLA!
IF WE SET OUT FOR POHJOLA, WE WILL GET THE MOON TO GLOW AND THE GOLDEN SUN TO SHINE!
THE SWORD OF LEMPI'S SON WILL BE BY YOUR SIDE!
YES!!!
ONE MORE TIME WE NEED TO SET OUT ON THE PATH OF POHJOLA'S SONS. A DECISIVE BATTLE NEARS!!

WE KNOW A SAFE ROUTE TO KIVIMÄKI. A SMALL GROUP SHOULD BE ABLE TO SNEAK IN UNDER DARKNESS.
THE TWO OF US AND BLACKSMITH ILMARINEN. LIKE LAST TIME.
TIERA IS COMING TOO. THE REST OF THE COMPANY WILL REMAIN HERE AS BACKUP. IF THERE'S TROUBLE, I WILL SOUND KULLERVO'S HORN.
THE DOOR TO THE SAMPO. THIS MAY NOT BE THE RIGHT ENTRANCE; THE GUARDS ARE NOWHERE TO BE SEEN...
ABSOLUTELY NOT. LET'S KEEP GOING.
LOOK; A HANDSOME BIRCH IN A STRANGE LOCATION!

IT LOOKS AS IF THE TREE WAS PLANTED THERE... AND LOOK AT THE ROCK BENEATH IT.
MUCH TOO SMOOTH FOR A NATURAL STONE. LET'S CHECK WHAT LIES UNDERNEATH.
MY OH MY, A LOT OF DOORS THE SON OF POHJOLA HAS MADE!
YES! AND LOOK AT THE NUMBER OF BOLTS, HUNDREDS OF LOCKS!
TRULY WOVEN SHUT! ARE WE NOW IN THE RIGHT PLACE...?
NINE ENTRANCES... IT MIGHT BE A RIDDLE...
OVER HERE! A SECRET SIGN IN THE ROCK!
MAYBE IT WILL OPEN ONE OF THE DOORS!
SHRING
KRAK
SSSS
OHH...
WRONG GUESS.
THWOK

AND THE BOLTS FLEW BACK BY MAGIC!!
RRAAR!! NOT EVEN IF YOU GRAB AND TWIST!!
THESE LOCKS WON'T CRUMBLE WITH SPELLS! THE DOORS ARE IMPOSSIBLE TO OPEN!
FORGE A DOZEN IRON BARS!!
STOP
WHAT'S THIS RABBLE??
?!
TTRROO

ONWARDS!
TFOK
WE ARE DOOMED! THE RAVENS WILL TAKE US, FLEDGLINGS WILL GET MEAT AND CROWS, HOT BLOOD!
SHUT UP TIERA!
ZZLANG

RRAA!!!
KLANG
SLANK
WE ARE SAVED...
HRHH?

YOU GOT HERE IN THE NICK OF TIME!
FREEING THE LIGHTS WILL NOT SUCCEED WITHOUT THE SECRET WISDOM OF THE WITCH.
SO WE SHALL FETCH HER. ILMARINEN, FORGE A COLLAR FOR THE CRONE!
SO BE IT.

THUNK
THUNK THUNK
UNGH.
KKRAAA
SLAM

ILMARINEN!!
SNAP
KRASH
SK-KRIEEGG!!
TRY AND FLY AWAY NOW, FLAP YOUR WINGS!!

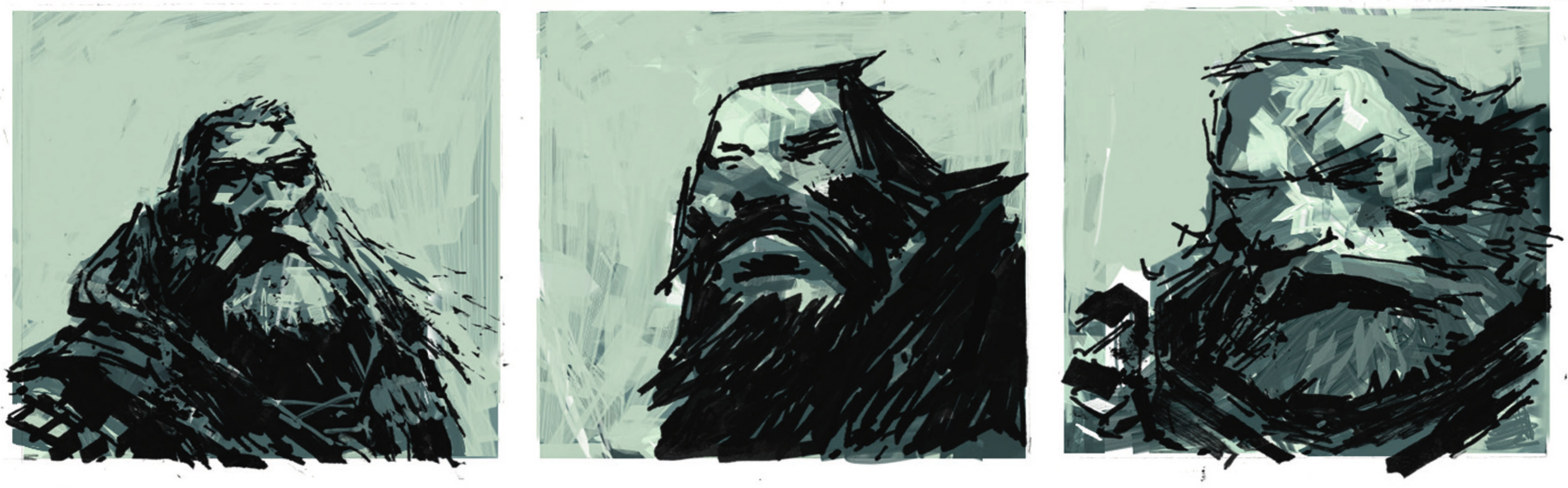
OPEN THE DOORS, WITCH!
SLAMM
THHOOOOMMMM
MIND YOU CHOOSE THE RIGHT DOOR, OLD VÄINÄMÖINEN...

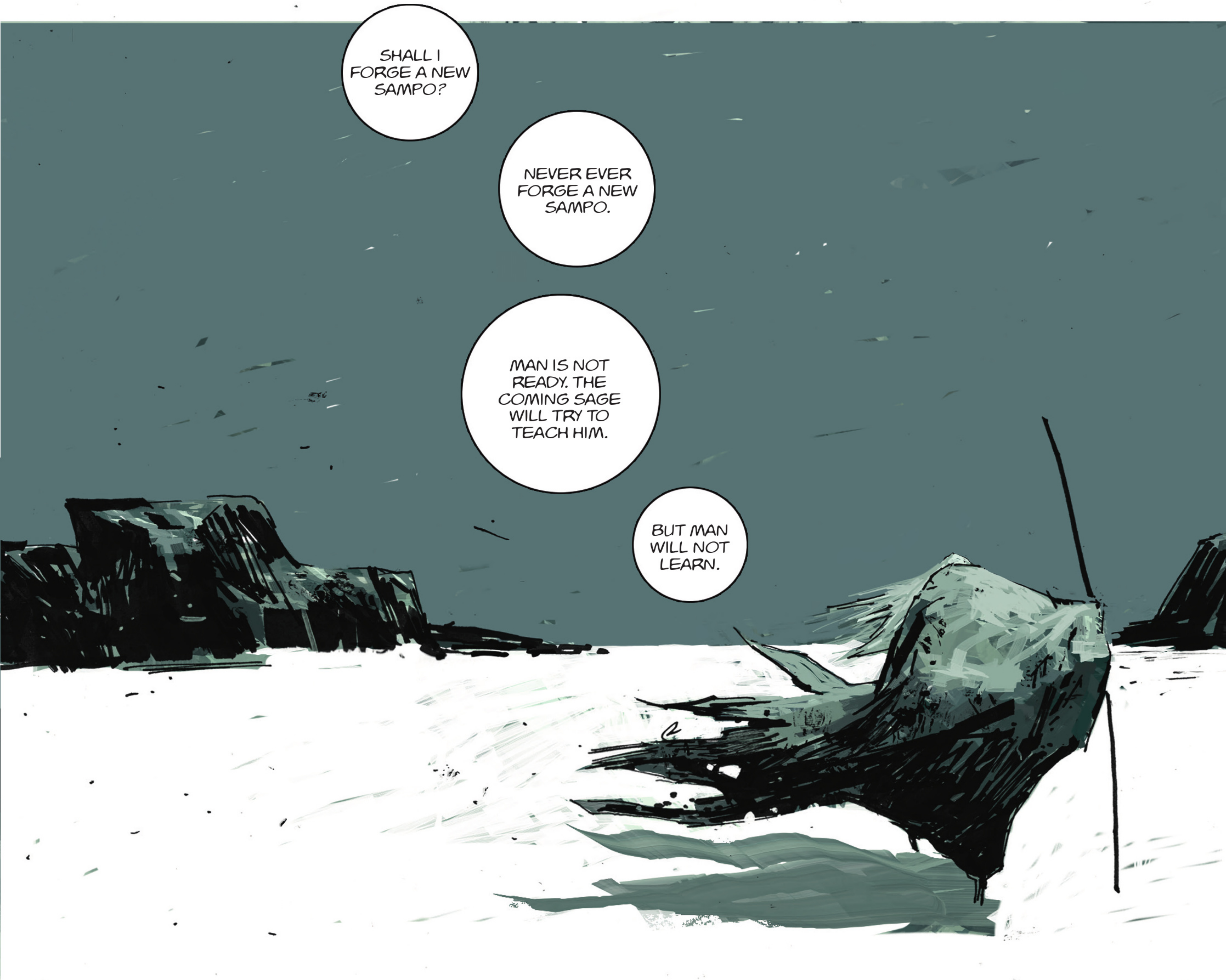
HOAH!!

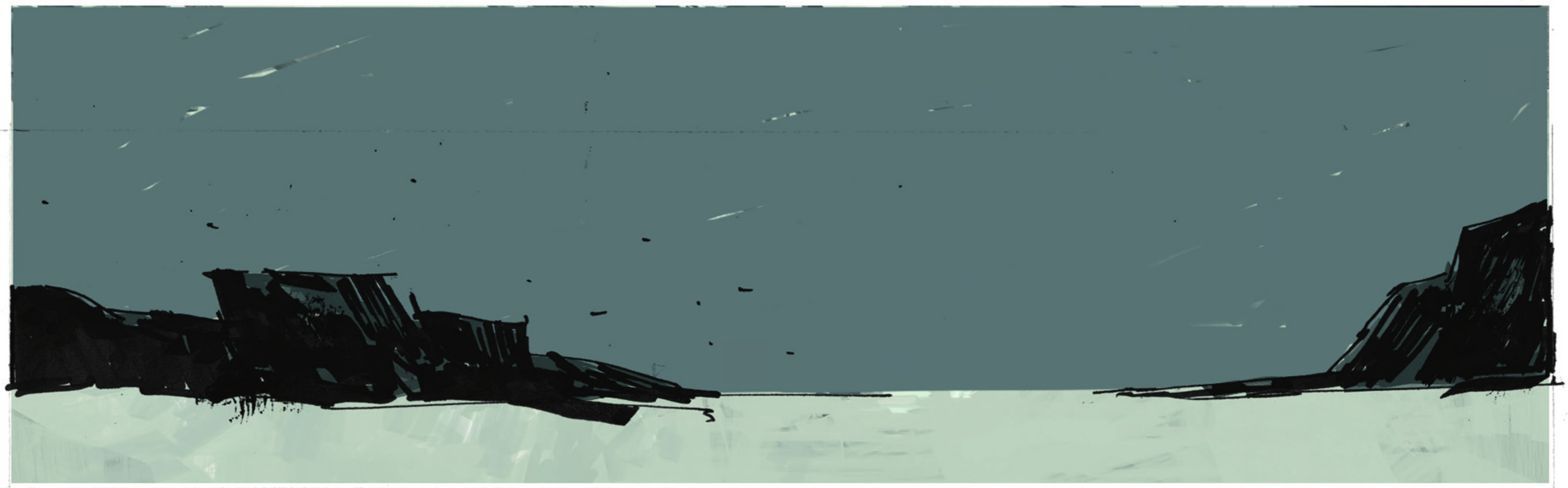
GREETINGS TO THEE, SUN OF FORTUNE. GREETINGS TO THEE, MOON OF GOOD LUCK. WELCOME SUNSHINE, WELCOME MOONLIGHT, GOLDEN IS THE DAWN OF MORNING!

FREE ART THOU, O SUN OF SILVER! FREE AGAIN, O MOON BELOVED!

KHOFF! KHOFF!
HOORAY!!
HOORAY!!
I HAD AN OMEN OF SORTS.
...THE TIME HAS COME. I MUST GO. A NEW SAGE WILL BE BORN.




SHALL I FORGE A NEW SAMPO?
NEVER EVER FORGE A NEW SAMPO.
MAN IS NOT READY. THE COMING SAGE WILL TRY TO TEACH HIM.
BUT MAN WILL NOT LEARN.



GLOSSARY OF NAMES AND PLACES

AHTI - another name for Lemminkäinen
AINO - beautiful sister of Joukahainen
ALPANDIR - another name for Hiisi's elk
FUDNO - an evil Sámi god, the devil. Same as Mubben Olmai
HELKA - 'holy', mythological female saint
HIISI - an evil spirit
HORAN GALLES - thunder god in Sámi
IKU-TURSO - an evil sea-giant
ILMARINEN - blacksmith and metalworker, Väinämöinen's brother
ILMATAR - 'daughter of the air', Väinämöinen's mother
INKERI - Ingria / Ingerland - region in northwestern European Russia
JOUKAHAINEN - a celebrated young minstrel in Pohjola
KALERVO - Kullervo's father
KALEVA - the father of heroes, a hero in general
KALEVALA - a place of heroes, a land of heroes
KANTELE - a traditional Finnish plucked string instrument
KAUKOMIELI - 'far looking mind', another name for Lemminkäinen
KIASE-OLMAI - god of the fishery
KIRDI - a witch who could turn into wind or birds
KIVIMÄKI - Stone Mountain
KYLLIKKI - island maiden kidnapped by Lemminkäinen
LEIB-OLMAI - 'alder man', a Sámi forest deity of the hunt and animals, especially bears.
LEMMINKÄINEN - son of Lempi, one of Väinämöinen's brothers
LIETO - soft, gentle. Epithet of Lemminkäinen
LOAUS - the master of the house of Pohjola
LOUHI - the mistress of the house of Pohjola
LOVIATAR - Tuoni's blind daughter, originator of the Plagues
LUONNOTAR - 'spirit of nature', same as Ilmatar
MADERAKKA - Lapp goddess of women and childbirth
MAIIDE SIÄK KAK TUN STUORA PASSE SEIDE? (P. 144) - What do you say, great holy god? Will you accept the offering I am about to give you?
MANALA - the underworld. Same as Tuonela.
MUBBEN OLMAI - 'the other man', the devil in Sámi mythology
NOAIDI - a Lapp shaman, mediator between humans and spirits
OSMOINEN - a hero of Väinölä
PIKKARAINEN - tiny, small
PIMENTOLA - same as Pohjola
POHJA - abbreviated name of Pohjola
POHJOLA - 'house / place of the North', Lapland
PÄIVÖLÄ - same as the house of Pohjola
RADIEN ATZHIE - the greatest and most superior celestial deity of the Sámi
RAHKOI - a thieving folklore creature associated with the waning of the moon
RANA-NEIDA - mythological goddess of spring and fertility
RUTU - ruler of the dark underworld of painful death, the epitome of disease
SAMPO - magical metal object of power forged by Ilmarinen
SARIOLA - same as Pohjola
SEIDE - Sámi spirit-idols of wood or stone in nature
SUONETAR - the goddess of veins and blood vessels
SUVANTOLAINEN - 'of still waters', another name for Väinämöinen
TAPIO - god or spirit of the forest
TARFOK - 'gatherer of moss', an ancient mythological name for a bear
TERHENETÄR - 'daughter of the mist / fog'
TIERA - 'frost', a skillful spear-warrior, friend of Lemminkäinen
TUONELA - the Underwold, the realm of death. Same as Manala.
TUONI - the god of death
TURISAS - same as Iku-Turso
TURJA - another name for Pohjola
TURJALAINEN - name for Louhi's people
UKKO - the principal spirit-god of Finnish mythology
UNTAMO - the dreamer, a brother and enemy of Kalervo
VELLAMO - the hostess of the waters
VIPUNEN - Antero Vipunen, a mythological underground giant
VÄINÖ - same as Väinämöinen
VÄINÖLÄ - home of Väinämöinen and his people; same as Kalevala
VÄINÄMÖINEN - the chief hero of the Kalevala; the hero of Väinölä

photo by mikko kutvonen

SAMI MAKKONEN HAS PROFESSIONALLY ILLUSTRATED GRAPHIC NOVELS SINCE 2008. HIS MOST NOTABLE WORKS PUBLISHED IN UNITED STATES ARE HIS *DEADWORLD* GRAPHIC NOVELS TOGETHER WITH WRITER GARY REED, AND *HATTER M.* GRAPHIC NOVELS WITH WRITERS FRANK BEDDOR AND LIZ CAVALIER. HE HAS ALSO DONE ART FOR THE *MAGIC: THE GATHERING* CARD GAME. HE IS CURRENTLY WRITING AS WELL AS DRAWING A NEW COSMIC/FOLK HORROR GRAPHIC NOVEL IN FINLAND.

THE AUTHOR WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE GRETA AND WILLIAM LEHTINEN FOUNDATION, THE SWEDISH COMICS ASSOCIATION, THE FINNISH CULTURAL FUND, THE CENTRAL ART COMMITTEE, AND THE WSOY LITERARY FOUNDATION FOR SUPPORTING HIS WORK. THANKS TO AKSELI GALLEN-KALLELA'S PAINTINGS AND RISTO POTTONEN'S BOOK *KALEVALA SUOMEKSI* FOR THEIR INSPIRATION.

"…my attempt to write legends of my own to fit my private languages was the tragic tale of the hapless Kullerva in the Finnish Kalevala. It remains a major matter in the legends of the First age…"
–J.R.R. Tolkien, Letter 257, 1964

A stunning graphic adaptation of the epic The Kalevala, which inspired J.R.R. Tolkien to write The Lord of the Rings.

The story tells of the adventures and fates of wizard Väinämöinen, warrior Lemminkäinen, blacksmith Ilmarinen, and other larger-than-life-characters seeking love, riches, and magic in the faraway lands of the ancient north.

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